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Veterans Conference to be streamed live online

A live video stream of the Chickasaw Veterans Conference ceremony will be available on the Chickasaw Nation website, Wednesday, June 14, at 10 a.m.

The live webcast will be accessible using any computer or mobile device online at www.chickasaw.net/vetconf.

For more information, call (580) 272-2550.

Upcoming Events

Elders Conference
June 12-13
Winstar
Thackerville, Okla.

Men's Health Week
June 12-17

Veterans Conference
June 14
Winstar
Thackerville, Okla.

Stomp Dancing
July 15, Midnight-6 a.m.
Kullihoma, Okla.
(580) 622-7140

Rabies Clinic
June 16, 10 a.m.-Noon
Purcell Area Office
Purcell, Okla.
(580) 622-7142

Summer Food Celebration
June 16, Noon-1 p.m.
Glenwood Park
Ada, Okla.
(580) 272-5368

Felt-Making Workshop
June 17, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
ARTesian Gallery & Studios
Sulphur, Okla.
(580) 622-8043

Paint with Mom
June 17, 10 a.m.-Noon and 1-3 p.m.
Artesian Gallery
Sulphur
(580) 272-5520

Turtle Run
June 17, 8 a.m.
Ardmore Regional Park
Ardmore, Okla.
chickasawrun@chickasaw.net

GOURDget Class
June 20, 2-4 p.m.
ARTesian Gallery & Studios
Sulphur
(580) 272-5520

Summer Food Celebration
June 21, Noon-1 p.m.
Tishomingo Elementary
Tishomingo, Okla.
(580) 272-5368

Monthly Community Arts and Crafts Class
June 22, 6-8 p.m.
Remmington Park
Oklahoma City
(580) 272-2594

Movie Night at Museums
June 23, 8:30 p.m.-Midnight
Chickasaw Capitol
Tishomingo
(580) 371-9835

Summer Food Celebration
June 23, Noon-1 p.m.
Ardmore Water Park
Ardmore
(580) 272-5368

Finger Weaving
June 24, 1-3 p.m.
Chickasaw Capitol
Tishomingo
(580) 371-3351

Summer Food Celebration
June 27, Noon-1 p.m.
Allen City Park
Allen, Okla.
(580) 272-5368

Summer Food Celebration
June 28, Noon-1 p.m.
Sulphur Splash Pad
Sulphur
(580) 272-5368

Loom Beading Class
July 8, 1-3 p.m.
Chickasaw Capitol
Tishomingo
(580) 371-3351

Pop Art Painting with Acrylics
July 14, 3-6 p.m.
Artesian Gallery
Sulphur
(580) 622-8040

Head Start, Senior Center, Community Center, Area Office and Youth Club

New Tishomingo campus facilities dedicated

Gov. Bill Anoatubby, center, is joined by a host of Chickasaw Nation and Johnston County dignitaries and community members in a dedication ceremony for four new and renovated facilities on the Tishomingo Chickasaw Nation Campus. The buildings dedicated April 25 include a new Chickasaw Nation Head Start building, Tishomingo Senior Center and Tishomingo Community Center. A renovated former clinic now accommodates the Tishomingo Area Office and Chickasaw Youth Club. Jacquelyn Sparks

TISHOMINGO, Okla. – Gov. Bill Anoatubby led April 25 dedication ceremonies for four new and renovated facilities on the Chickasaw Nation Campus on East Sixth Street in Tishomingo.

The new facilities will provide education, youth, elder and community services.

Gov. Anoatubby said every service offered by the Chickasaw Nation in the Tishomingo area can be accessed on the new campus.

"The development of this campus means the growth of Chickasaw Nation programs and services in this area, Gov. Anoatubby said.

"It means that accessing these services will be more convenient than ever before, and it means

SEE **TISHOMINGO CAMPUS**, PAGE 4

A fun-filled 19th Annual Chikasha Ittafama (Chickasaw Reunion)

Chikasha Toli stickball player Nick Underwood, in black, dives in for the ball against a Choctaw competitor during a match at the 19th Annual Chikasha Ittafama (Chickasaw Reunion).

Chickasaw bowyer Eric Smith, far right, draws a bead on cornstalks during competition May 6 at the 19th Annual Chikasha Ittafama. Mr. Smith, a Lawton, Okla., resident, fashioned bows and arrows for the Oscar-winning movie "The Revenant." He is renowned for his craftsmanship and for adhering to historically accurate construction of Indian weapons.

Noted basketry artist Sue Fish gathers material to show reunion attendees the art of Southeastern tribal basket weaving at the 19th Annual Chikasha Ittafama.

Competition at the Reunion Domino Tournament.

Khloe Tilley, Chickasaw, takes time out to fish at Chikasha Ittafama.

Chickasaws Tyriese Higdon, left, and his brother Tyrell enjoy the festivities at Chikasha Ittafama.

Chikasha Pehlichi Ikbi students visit Chickasaw homelands

Chikasha Pehlichi Ikbi (Chickasaw Leadership) students reconnected with their Chickasaw heritage in the homelands area of Mississippi and Alabama, March 13-17. Students spent five days expanding their knowledge of Chickasaw culture and history visiting Tupelo, Amory and Pontotoc, Miss., and Tuscumbia, Ala.

"Visiting the homelands of our ancestors was a very exciting experience for us all," Lead Youth Organization Specialist Ethan Cox said. "Learning about the historically and culturally significant sites of our past leaders with future Chickasaw leaders made it particularly special."

Students toured the Chickasaw Preserve, Saliichi Colbert House and 1814-1821 Chickasaw Council House, Colbert Ferry and the Natchez Trace Parkway Chickasaw Village site.

They also learned about other tribes by visiting the Pontotoc Post Office and Museum, Amory Regional museum, touring the Natchez Trace Parkway headquarters and listening to the story behind the Tom Hendrix Wall.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carmen Carter, Public Affairs.

Chikasha Pehlichi Ikibi students explored the Chickasaw homelands, March 13-17. The students are, front row from left, Haley Carney, Maegan Carney, Kobe McDonald, Madysen Walck, Alivia McCuan and Stewart McCuan. Middle row from left, Justine Carney, Raven Carney, Kylie Arter, Angel Adams, Angel Reynolds, Lis Reynolds, Mady Mitchell, Loreal Harjo and Jason Morgan. Back row from left, Toby Pyle, Macen Merris, Allison Lollis, Dawson Berna, Jaren Standridge and Jesse Clark.

'Piominko' and 'Jack and the Giant' released

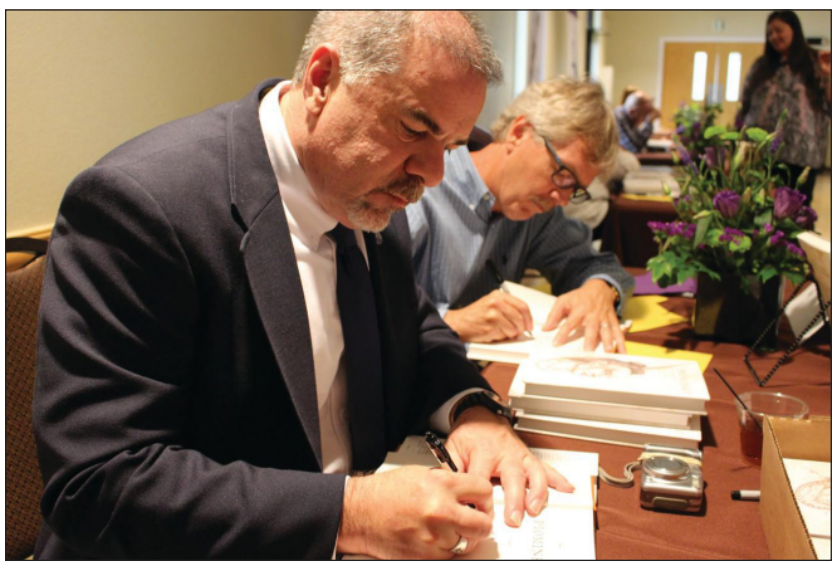
The Chickasaw Press released several books during the annual spring book release and reception May 11 at the Chickasaw Community Center in Ada, Okla. Authors were on hand for book signings.

Among the titles available was the "C is for Chickasaw" application, an app based on the award-winning book "C is for Chickasaw." The app enhances the original text with child-friendly interactive features, games and activities. The highlighted, read-to-me narration walks users through the book portion of the app, where the illustrations come to life with interactive and engaging animation and sound effects. There is also a stand-alone ABC feature that includes audio and interactive animation for each letter of the alphabet. Digital coloring pages, puzzles and a photo booth round out the other in-app activities.

The Chickasaw Press and White Dog Press released "Piominko: Chickasaw Leader," and "Jack and the Giant."

For more information on the recently released titles, contact the Chickasaw Press at (580) 436-7282 or www.ChickasawPress.com

Children enjoy learning from the "C is for Chickasaw" app during the annual spring release.



Mitch Caver, left, and Dr. Thomas W. Cowger autograph copies of their recently released book, "Piominko: Chickasaw Leader."

Chikasha Bak Bak

Front row from left, Aaron Perez, Angela Guzman, Mason Carter, Malkhi Chapman, Brenlee Underwood(very front), Teegan Going, Xander Going, Jayla Underwood, Olivia Joe, Draven Postoak and Jefferson McDonald. Second row from left, Dalton Moore, Levi Underwood, Jacob Jankus, Anoli Billy, Ethan Moore, Jesse Clark(red hoodie), Cameron Johnson(very back), Devon Chapman, Cameron Moore(sun shades in the middle), Dylan Williamson(very back in white shirt), Easton Going, Dale Shackleford, Gareth Morton, Kadin Postoak, Jacob Carter, Naki Greenwood, Darnell Colbert, Nayukpa Ramsey and Sungie Buck.

Youth stickball team wins first league championship

The Chickasaw Nation Youth Stickball team, Chikasha Bak Bak, won its first league championship April 8, at Tvshkahomma.

After three years of competition the Bak Bak team solidified their spot with a 2-1 and 3-0 win in the senior division.

"The championship game was intense and was added pressure too finally win the tournament after three years," Bak Bak player Kaden Postoak, 15, shared. "It's fun and I like the team atmosphere. I like stickball because it's something you can't just start and be good, you have to practice at it to get better."

Teams of juniors ages 8-12 and seniors ages 13-17 from Ada, Tishomingo and Norman, played in the single elimination tournament, deciding who would take home top honors as league champions.

Clovis Hamilton, coaches the Bak Bak team along with Brandon White Eagle, Ric Greenwood and Vinny Baptiste.

"Now that we have won the championship and brought it to the Chickasaw Nation we have to practice harder to try to keep it with us next year. It is always fun to win but we want to make an impact on our players off the field as well," youth language outreach manager, Clovis Hamilton said. "We could not ask for a better group of players, parents, coaches and support from the Chickasaw Nation."

To learn more about Chickasaw Stickball visit, www.Chickasaw.net/ChickasawStickball or contact the language department at (580) 436-7272.

CONTRIBUTED BY Kristen Gill, Public Affairs.

Chickasaw youth robotics teams near top in championship competition

ADA, Okla. - Metal Mayhem, a FIRST Tech Challenge team, competed against 400 other teams in the world championships in Houston recently. The team ranked 37th after the four-day competition.

The Mechanical Mario Bros., a VEX IQ Robotics team, traveled to Louisville, Ky., to compete against 308 teams from 40 countries at the world championship. The team made it to the VEX IQ Challenge Middle School Engineering Division final rounds, ending the competition ranked eighth in its division. This was the first year this team participated in VEX IQ Robotics.

To learn more about the Chickasaw Nation Science, Technology and Math robotics programs, visit www.chickasaw.net/stm.

Explore the world of science with the Chickasaw Junior Native Explorers

Native American students can learn about careers in science with the Chickasaw Junior Native Explorers. Students ages six through 18 will learn about careers in earth science, natural science, biomedical science and medicine by visiting facilities and experiencing hands-on learning.

Quarterly field trips transport students into the world of science and are led by mentors who work in scientific fields.

Students who reside in Ada, Ardmore or surrounding areas are encouraged to apply. Transportation will be provided from Ada.

Become an explorer! Visit www.chickasaw.net/nativeexplorer to apply. For more information, (580) 421-7711 or email kresta.lofton@chickasaw.net.

Chickasaw Royalty applications now available

Chickasaw Royalty 2016-2017 - Chickasaw Princess Julie Underwood, Chickasaw Junior Princess Keilyn Factor and Little Miss Chickasaw LaKala Orphan.

Applications are now available for the 2017-2018 Chickasaw Princess, Chickasaw Jr. Princess and Little Miss Chickasaw Pageant

Chickasaw Princesses serve and represent the Chickasaw Nation as ambassadors at a variety of events and activities throughout the year.

Eligibility:

· Must be age 17-25 to apply for Chickasaw Princess; age 12-16 for Chickasaw Jr. Princess; and age seven-11 for Little Miss Chickasaw

· Candidates must reside within the Chickasaw Nation boundaries, be at least one-quarter Chickasaw and a registered citizen of the Chickasaw Nation

· Must currently be enrolled in school, submit a recent grade report, have a minimum GPA of 2.0 and must be in good standing with the school

In addition to the application, candidates must also include a copy of their CDIB and citizenship cards, a 5x7 photo (black and white or color) and three references (who are not related to the candidate).

Application deadline is Friday, Aug. 25.

Applications are available at www.Chickasaw.net/youth and at Chickasaw Nation Youth Services, 231 Seabrook Rd, Ada, Oklahoma.

For more information, contact Mary Hartley at (580) 310-9539 or (580) 272-7710.

Chickasaw Business Directory available online

Did You Know…

The Chickasaw Business Directory identifies existing businesses owned, controlled and operated by Chickasaw citizens. This allows potential business opportunities between Chickasaw citizens.

Chickasaw citizens are encouraged to review the Chickasaw Business Directory when shopping for products or services, in an effort to promote business among Chickasaws.

The directory can be assessed online at www.chickasawbusinessregistry.com.

For more information, contact Daniel Melton at (580) 310-7908 or daniel.melton@chickasaw.net.

White House Internship Program accepting applications

College students and recent graduates as well as recently discharged U.S. military veterans are eligible to apply for the White House Internship Program.

The White House Internship Program selection process is highly competitive. Applicants are encouraged to submit a thorough application that illustrates their qualifications, character, and commitment to public service.

Internships are available in a wide variety of offices, including The Office of Cabinet Affairs, The Office of Digital Strategy, The Office of Legislative Affairs, The Office of the First Lady and many others.

The application deadline is 11:59 p.m. EDT on Friday, June 16, 2017. Interns must be at least 18 years old as of the internship start date, and must meet at least one of the following criteria:

· Are currently enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program at a college, community college, or university (two-to-four year institution).

· Have graduated from an undergraduate or graduate degree program at a college, community college, or university (two-to-four year institution) no more than two years before the internship start date.

· Are a veteran of the U.S. armed forces who possesses a high school diploma or its equivalent and has served on active duty - for any length of time - in the two years preceding the internship start date.

White House Interns work full-time. White House Internships are unpaid, and interns are responsible for finding and funding their own housing.

Those who want to apply to be part of the WHIP Fall 2017 Class, which will run from September 6 through December 8, can find more information and complete the application at this link: https://www.whitehouse.gov/participate/internships/apply.

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All editorials and letters will become the property of the Chickasaw Times. Editorials must be signed by the author and include the author's address.
Deadline for submission is the 15th of each month prior to publication. Submissions can be mailed, faxed, hand-delivered or e-mailed.

Keeping pace with change is a historic Chickasaw talent

GOV. BILL ANOATUBBY

Governor, The Chickasaw Nation

There is one element we can consistently count on in our modern lives, and that one element is change.

In today's fast-paced world, an existing reality can quickly make a turn when change marches in to alter everything! The pace of modern technology and communication offer excellent examples. Those of us who work with information are constantly challenged by change. Modern systems simply change at a faster and faster rate.

The Chickasaw Nation and the Chickasaw people are no strangers to change. Throughout our history we have been confronted with tremendous obstacles and changes of environment.

We were originally a warrior nation with a sophisticated system of government. Our Southeastern communities were cooperative, prosperous and well-defended.

Then, of course, our people were removed and sent to a new and virtually unknown territory. For generations to follow, we were challenged not just by the land and the scarcity of resources, but also by the intrusions of other entities that did not have our best interests at heart.

We have persevered and are once again prosperous, strong and vital. We are a leader among the hundreds of federally-recognized tribes, and our progressive posture and success have given us security.

The lesson for us is that we know change will come, and we have become good at adapting. Change is a constant the Chickasaw Nation and the Chickasaw people have faced with courage and success.

For the generations long past, the skills of war and hunting were most essential. Later, Chickasaws realized they would have to learn new skills in order to move forward with the ever-changing environment.

Today, Chickasaws are undoubtedly succeeding in the modern world. A commitment to education has been a real key to our success. An ever-growing number of Chickasaws are professionals, trades journeymen, artists, scientists, soldiers and so much more. Chickasaws are succeeding in these disciplines because we have recognized the changes in American society and stayed current with those changes.

Could Chickasaws a century ago have imagined what Chickasaws today are achieving? The Chickasaw Nation of 1917 looked much different than today. Chickasaw families, for the most part, lived and worked at subsistence levels. There was virtually no opportunity for Chickasaws. The changes that had swept through virtually all of Indian country had created tremendous hardship and challenge.

But the people persevered. It was slow going at first as Chickasaws adapted to the changes and learned how to survive. As time marched on, the challenges continued. But Chickasaws learned how to "roll with the punches" and make things better.

Today, the changes we experience are not so earth-shaking, but the change comes much faster. For Chickasaw people today, the key challenge is balancing the demands of modern work and society with the traditions that define us. We cherish our families and our relationships even as we are tugged by the seven-day, 24-hour demands of our careers and our world.

Even success has its challenges. Those are the challenges that today's Chickasaws will meet and overcome, in accordance with our unique and wonderful history.

From our tribe of warriors and hunters we have evolved into a modern tribe of variety and aspiration. We now live in countless places, we engage in many career fields, and we are tugged by the changes the world continues to throw our way.

And, as always, we will remember our culture and heritage that is close to all Chickasaw hearts. We will care for each other; treasure our families; be upright, strong and proud to be Chickasaw!

Women's conference features 'the Chickasaw experience'

SHELBY ROWE
2016 DYNAMIC WOMAN OF THE YEAR

BRENDA KINGERY

KRISTINA KIRTLEY

KATIE CALLAWAY

SULPHUR, Okla. – Chickasaw women from across the country learned the "Chickasaw experience" is a powerful tool in their quiver as they embark upon careers, tackle life and soar to reach personal goals.

A panel discussion on the Chickasaw experience was a feature at the 2017 Dynamic Women of the Chickasaw Nation Conference at the Artesian Hotel & Spa.

The panel included Chickasaw artist Brenda Kingery; Kristina Kirtley, education department producer for WNET (PBS station for the greater New York City area); and Katie Callaway, a former Oklahoma City Thunder Girls entertainer and CrossFit competitor.

"Don't let failure define you," Ms. Callaway told conference attendees, "even if you're not quite sure where your passion lies yet. Whatever you do, as long as you're giving it your best effort (that) is what matters. And, welcome those feelings of discomfort. Discomfort is where you will find (personal) growth."

The theme of this year's conference was "Celebrating the Past to Empower Future Generations." Panelists also shared personal stories and brief moments when they realized life was what you made of it.

"Growing up, I thought you had to pick something, like you had to be a teacher, a doctor or a lawyer, like that was what was going to define my life," Ms. Kirtley said. "Somewhere along the way, I realized that's just not really the way it works. I can be a lot of different things and I don't have to pick just one. I realized I could be a writer, a film producer, a mother, a wife and all these things are a part of the complexity of my identity."

The two-day conference was attended by Chickasaw women from across the country. Attendees learned valuable lessons on topics as diverse as being creative on a shoestring budget to improving literacy for Native children.

Established in 2006 by Governor Bill Anoatubby, the conference has grown from an evening forum to a two-day conference that recognizes the strength and leadership of Chickasaw women from all walks of life and salutes their valuable contributions, talents and skills.

The inspiring event was led by Mistress of Ceremonies Lisa Billy.

Mrs. Billy served 12 years in the Oklahoma House of Representatives. She was the first Indian, and the first woman, to be elected in district 42. As a House member, she helped create the first Oklahoma Native American Caucus.

Mrs. Billy was honored as the Chickasaw Nation Dynamic Woman of the Year in 2007. Two years later she was inducted into the Chickasaw Nation Hall of Fame. Mrs. Billy is also a former educator in the Department of Continuing Education at University of Oklahoma.

The 2016 Chickasaw Nation Dynamic Woman of the Year, Shelby R. Rowe, was keynote speaker at this year's event. Ms. Rowe is manager of Education and Prevention Programs for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. She has been a leader in suicide prevention since 2007 and has more than 20 years of experience in the public health system. Ms. Rowe played a major role in the Arkansas State Plan for Suicide Prevention by expanding the statewide crisis hotline.

In conjunction with the conference, an art show showcasing the creations of Chickasaw Woman was featured at the ARTesian Gallery & Studios.

For more information, visit www.Chickasaw.net.

Accepting nominations for 2018 Dynamic Woman of the Year

The Chickasaw Nation is now accepting nominations for the 2018 Dynamic Woman of the Year Award. All nominations and supporting documentation must be turned in to Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities by July 7, 2017.

Chickasaw women, age 35 and up, with Chickasaw citizenship documentation or Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB), are eligible.

For a nomination form or more information, visit www.Chickasaw.net or contact Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities at (580) 272-5520.

CONTRIBUTED BY Patrick Cravatt, Media Relations.

The Chickasaw Tribal Library Summer Reading Program begins June 5

The Chickasaw Tribal Library Summer Reading Program will run from Monday, June 5, to Friday, Aug 4. This program is available for Chickasaw youth, ages seven through 16, living in the 74820/74821 zip code, or Chickasaw youth whose parents or guardians work in 74820/74821 zip code.

The theme for this year's Summer Reading Program is "Building a Better World." Top prizes will include a new Lego set and a Kindle E-reader, depending on the winner's preferences.

Other prizes will include McSwain Theatre tickets, Lazer Zone tickets and new books for children and young adults.

The program will kick-off on Monday, June 5, with snacks and drinks available all day for all who come to register for the reading program.

To register, please bring a CDIB or Chickasaw citizenship card on behalf of the participant, along with proof of address. Participants will then check out up to five books at a time. A short log summarizing each story, along with what they found meaningful will be required.

Participants can read as many books as they want, and registration is open up until the final week of the program.

Winners will be announced and contacted Monday, Aug. 7.

For more information, contact the Tribal Library at (580) 310-6477.

Children's Festival set for June 24 at Cultural Center

Mark your calendars for the Children's Festival at the Chickasaw Cultural Center Saturday, June 24 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Enjoy activities and demonstrations in the Living Village including stomp dancing, archery, traditional games and more.

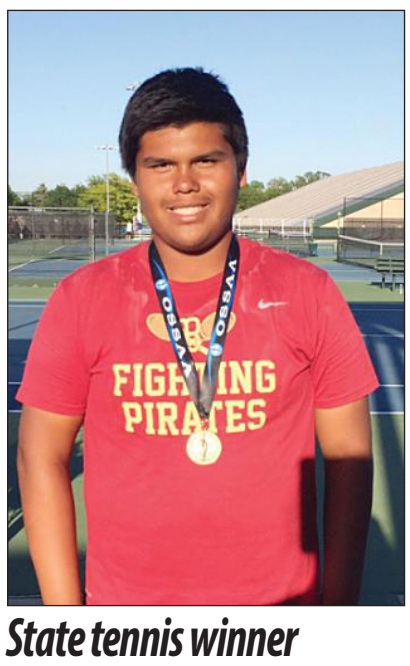
Children's films will show on the giant, four-story screen in the Anoli' Theater.

- 10:30 a.m., "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs"
- Noon, "Winnie the Pooh"
- 1 p.m., "101 Dalmations"
- 2:30 p.m., "The Land Before Time"

Look who's living in the trees in the interactive Itti' Chokka' Treehouses Exhibit.

Also, children will receive a special gift while quantities last!

For more information, visit www.chickasawculturalcenter.com.



State tennis winner

Jaron Tiger poses with a medal awarded for finishing eighth in Class 4A State Tennis Tournament action in Oklahoma City last month. Jaron is the son of Jason Tiger and Patricia Bunch. His paternal grandparents are Roger and Mary Johnson and his maternal grandmother is Roberta Bunch. Jaron competed for the Byng High School Pirates.

BIA tours Ardmore Child Development Center

A group of Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) officials from the region toured the new Chickasaw Nation Child Development Center in Ardmore last month. Chickasaw Nation Child Care Director Michelle Key, second row, far right, hosted the tour of the 26,000-square-foot facility, which opened in a ribbon cutting ceremony March 30. Participating in the tour, front row from left, Carla Norman, Superintendent, Okmulgee Agency; Ramona Ellis, Superintendent, Wewoka Agency; Robin Phillips, Superintendent Osage Agency; Rhonda Loftin, Deputy Superintendent, Miami Agency; and Cristy Hammons, Choctaw Liaison. Back row from left, Jackie Matherly, health wellness and language coordinator, Chickasaw Nation Child Development; Richard Winlock, Deputy Superintendent, Osage Agency; Eddie Streater, Regional Director, Eastern Oklahoma Region; Paul Yates, Superintendent, Miami Agency; Ashley Large, Superintendent, Chickasaw Agency; Jessie Durham, Deputy Regional Director - Eastern Oklahoma Region BIA; and Ms. Key. Contributed by Dana Lance and Jacquelyn Sparks

Week of the Young Child April 24-28

The Chickasaw Nation Child Development Center celebrated Week of the Young Child in Ada, April 24-28. The week kicked off with a parade followed by a variety of events including car seat safety checks, little Olympics, crawling contests, a carnival and ending with a petting zoo and bounce house. Week of the Young Child is a national celebration of early learning, young children and their teachers and families spearheaded by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Pictured above are children in the preschool classroom march in the parade. From left are, Isabel Hawkins, Riddik Hagar on dad Brett Hagar's shoulders, Averi Martin, Daxen Thyne, Johna Jackson, Daries Logan, Quaid Ream, Adelyn Coughran, Casyn Walker, Jacob Grimes, Brittany Alexander and Steffany Walker.

Little Chickasaw Caden Gore watches as Rhylan Brend plays a carnival game.

Chickasaw citizen Kasi Hopstein and husband Brandon celebrate baby Dominik's victory in the baby crawling contest.

Chickasaw Senior Golf Academy May 18

Tommy Scott, left and Leon Brown enjoy tournament play at the Chickasaw Senior Golf Academy May 18 at Winstar Golf Course in Thackerville, Okla.

A message from Chickasaw Princess Julie Underwood

CHICKASAW PRINCESS
JULIE UNDERWOOD

Chukma! Saholhchifoat Julie Underwood.

Hello! My name is Julie Underwood.

I am your 2016-2017 Chickasaw Princess. My reign has been extremely exciting and fun! I've enjoyed traveling and representing the Chickasaw Nation at various events, as well as spending time with Chickasaw Junior Princess, KeKe Factor and Little Miss Chickasaw, Lakala Orphan.

We had the pleasure of being guests at several events over the past few months. I am excited to share a few highlights of my reign so far.

In January, I was invited to read "The Foot Book" by Dr. Seuss to Chickasaw Nation Head Start students in Ardmore and Tishomingo for Reading is Fundamental, a Twice Upon a Time Reading Challenge. I enjoyed spending time and talking with the kids and they were so excited to meet a princess!

In February, we attended the Oklahoma City Blue game and participated in the Chickasaw Nation Youth Services game day presentation to Governor Anoatubby.

Our most recent event we traveled to Albuquerque, New Mexico to attend the Gathering of Nations and Miss Indian World Pageant. I loved every minute of this trip! We met many new people from different tribes across the United States.

The pageant is always an awesome experience to see Native American women representing their tribes and to learn about their culture.

We also got to see the Grand Entry at North America's biggest powwow. To see all of these tribes and people, was an unexplainable feeling. It's evidence that Native American culture is still alive and thriving.

I am very thankful I was able to represent the Chickasaw Nation and to show how our culture is alive and thriving as well.

I will never forget the new experiences, the people I have met and memories I have made. My year as your 2016-2017 Chickasaw Princess is moving fast, but I'm looking forward in representing the Chickasaw Nation throughout this year.

Yakoke!

Julie Underwood

Chickasaw youth wins Folkstyle Wrestling Nationals

TOHMI WARRIOR CARNEY

Eight-year-old Chickasaw wrestler Tohmi Warrior Carney recently won the Adidas Folkstyle Wrestling Nationals in the 65-lb. weight division. He won the title April 9 in Kansas City.

Tohmi is a four-time National champion in his division and holds an all-American wrestling status. He won his first competition when he was six.

Tohmi attends Lincoln Christian private schools in Broken Arrow, Okla. He practices his wrestling skills at the Broken Arrow Take Down Club and at home. He found inspiration to begin wrestling from his father and brothers. His three brothers are wrestlers and have won multiple awards.

"Tohmi has always been in the top two in his division for Oklahoma," his father, Matt Carney said. "He is extremely dedicated to the sport. He doesn't eat junk food or drink soda. The sport requires a lot of discipline. You have to stay fit and watch what you eat. You have to put your time in to be the best."

Tohmi hits the mat four times a week on top of going to invitational national competitions on weekends.

He has also been invited to attend an Oklahoma State University wrestling camp conducted by OSU wrestling head coach John Smith and associate head coach Eric Guerrero.

"My goal is to go to college and wrestle," Tohmi said.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carmen Carter, Public Affairs.

Chickasaw family lives a healthy lifestyle with climbing

Declan (front center), Luke (rear center) and Macalan Calfy placed in the top three at the State Games of Oklahoma, Jan. 28 at Climb Up in Norman.

The sport of climbing plays an important role in Josh and Crystal Calfy's family life.

In search of an extracurricular activity for her children - Declan, Macalan and Luke Calfy - Mrs. Calfy enrolled the children in a climbing camp in the Norman, Okla., area. Shortly after they started the camp, Mr. and Mrs. Calfy started climbing with their children.

"We enjoyed learning and practicing different skills, then we just progressed with our climbing abilities and started competing," Declan said.

Mr. Calfy had a background in the climbing sport of rappelling. Both parents have climbed with their children on various camping trips in Oklahoma, Arkansas, Colorado and Texas.

"I have seen extreme growth from all of my children," Mr. Calfy said. "They have learned how to overcome failure from climbing. Ninety percent of climbing is failure. You are going to climb, fall and not get the climbing route you want, but you learn to overcome those emotions and problem solve."

Declan, Macalan and Luke recently competed in the State Games of Oklahoma, Jan. 28 at Climb Up in Norman. The State Games of Oklahoma is an amateur competition with various sports such as archery, bouldering, basketball, figure skating, judo, pickleball, table tennis and ping pong, trail run and wrestling.

Declan, Macalan and Luke placed in the top three in the bouldering climbing challenge and earned the title of state champions.

"The kids' coaches at the OK climbing team fosters a mission of competing at the highest level," Mr. Calfy said. "They also want the children to understand that climbing is something you can enjoy recreationally, not just at a competitive level."

Declan, Macalan and Luke Calfy share a goal- to become stronger, better and to climb everywhere across the United States.

The family said the climbing community has been supportive and welcoming since they began climbing. They will continue to climb together as a family on a regular basis.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carmen Carter, Public Affairs.

TISHOMINGO CAMPUS | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that many generations of Chickasaws who might not otherwise meet are going to gather as one community."

The campus consists of a new Tishomingo Head Start building, Tishomingo Senior Center and Tishomingo Community Center.

A renovated former clinic now accommodates the Tishomingo Area Office and Chickasaw Youth Club.

New facilities are designed to benefit Chickasaws of all ages and walks of life, from pre-school to elders. Each facility provides vital services, from health and wellness programs to education and community fellowship.

Chickasaw Nation Tishomingo Head Start

The new Tishomingo Head Start building includes more than 12,000 square feet of classroom space, an indoor play room, safe room and cafeteria. The new building will serve about 60 children in the area.

Chickasaw Nation Tishomingo Senior Center

The 7,748-square-foot Chickasaw Nation Senior Center is a place for Chickasaw and Native American elders to gather and participate in a wide variety of activities.

The building includes an exercise room, craft room, computer room and safe room, along with a commercial grade kitchen and dining area.

Chickasaw Nation Tishomingo Community Center

With 8,200 square-feet, the community center features a banquet room that will accommodate up to 450 people, as well as a full kitchen. The center is equipped with a training room and an audio-visual system to support a wide variety of activities. |

Tishomingo Area Office

The area office offers a conference room, 10 offices, large reception area, an exercise room and a break room.

Chickasaw Youth Club

Serving more than 90 young people, the Chickasaw Youth Club offers a large, open play room, computer room, music room, dining area, safe room, locker area, a library and offices, as well as an outdoor play area.

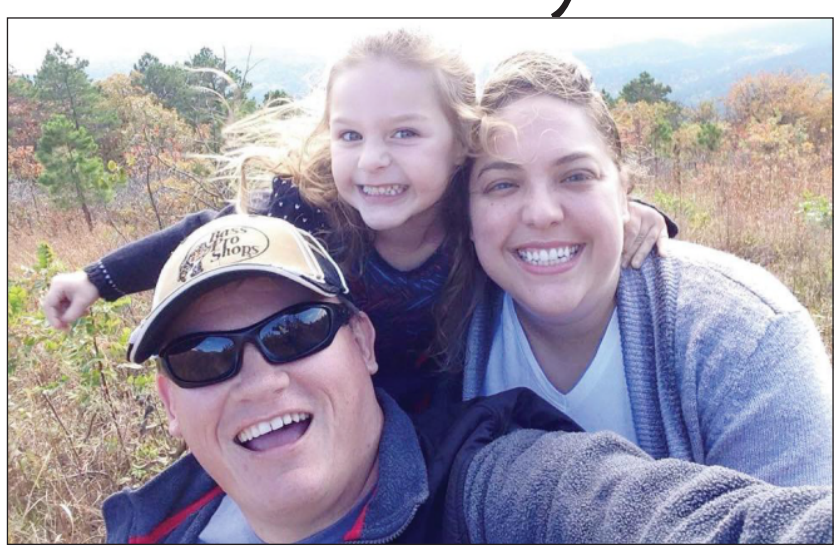
The new facilities are adjacent to the new Tishomingo Clinic and Wellness Center.

For more information about Chickasaw Nation programs and services available in the Tishomingo area, please call (580) 371-9512, or visit www.Chickasaw.net.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, Media Relations.

Henry family enjoys the journey of its first year as a Chickasaw foster family

ADA, Okla. - Chickasaw citizen, Chad Henry and his wife, Sarah, opened their hearts and home through the Chickasaw Nation Foster Care and Adoption Program in May 2016. The Henrys have one biological daughter, five-year-old Sydnee.



Chad Henry, Sydnee Henry and Sarah Henry visit the Talimena Scenic Drive in Arkansas.

The Henry family has always been interested in fostering Native American children. Even before they were married, Mrs. Henry wanted to foster. She saw firsthand some of the hardships foster children have to face, as her parents worked in a children's home when she was young.

When beginning their foster care journey, the Henrys were looking forward to their first placement. Mr. Henry said his daughter was "always excited about getting a new baby brother or sister."

The Henry family has grown closer because of the foster family experience. At first, Mr. and Mrs. Henry were concerned their daughter might not enjoy sharing the love and attention to which she was accustomed. But fortunately Sydnee loves the children as much as her parents.

"When you get more children in your home, your love does not split, it grows," Mr. Henry said.

The foster care and adoption program staff is available to help foster families stay organized, listen to their concerns and point them in the right direction for any needed assistance.

"The children have a social worker who visits monthly you can contact for any needs and each foster family has a foster care worker assigned to guide them through the process and support them after they receive placement," Mr. Henry said.

In addition to helpful social workers, there are many resources available to current and interested foster and adoptive families. The Henrys have utilized a number of resources through the Chickasaw Nation, including child care assistance, the WIC program and clothing grants.

The Henry family believes that support and stability are important qualities a foster family can give a child in their home. They contribute to a child's overall well-being by encouraging outside activities, like walking at the park or fishing.

The Henrys have had many babies in their care since becoming a foster family. They bond with the babies by reading to them. They have received many books though the Chickasaw Nation Child Development Center, Early Childhood Center and Sick Child Care Program. Mrs. Henry also uses the Chickasaw Nation Anompa app to read Chickasaw language to them.

"Do not wait to open your home if you are considering fostering and adopting, because there is a great need out there for tribal homes to open their doors to these awesome kids," Mr. Henry said. "There is no better time than right now to be a foster family."

Consider opening your heart and your home by becoming a Chickasaw Nation foster care family and foster a child. Chickasaw children are waiting for families to offer them a chance for a stable home on both permanent and temporary basis.

Currently there are 68 foster care or adoptive families providing out-of-home foster care needed for children in tribal custody, but more families are needed

For more information, or to become a foster parent, contact the Chickasaw Nation Foster Care and Adoption Program at (580) 272-5550 or visit www.chickasaw.net/foster.

CONTRIBUTED BY Taylor Owen, Public Affairs.

Chickasaw fourth-grader stays active while giving back

Connie Myrick, Danelle Myrick-Devore and Nicole Collins in the Oklahoma City Bombing Memorial Field of Empty Chairs after the Kids Marathon April 29.

OKLAHOMA CITY - Nicole Collins, a Chickasaw student at Solider Creek Elementary in Midwest City, Okla., is a girl on the go. Not only does she take dance classes, participate in Girl Scouts, and raise funds for the American Heart Association, but she is also a member of a special club.

The Marathon Club at Solider Creek Elementary school, founded by special education teacher Sherry Admire, trained from October through April to prepare for the Oklahoma City Memorial Kids Marathon.

Ms. Admire said she began the club to bring in new ideas on healthy lifestyles and spread kindness. Over the course of training, students learn about the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing.

"Besides training for the marathon, Ms. Admire taught the students why we have the OKC Memorial Marathon," Connie Myrick, Nicole's mother, said. "In one session, a bombing survivor talked about her experience. Other times, her teacher showed videos about what took place April 19. Firemen came in and taught the students how to do CPR. Another session, the fastest long distance woman in Oklahoma came and talked about running."

Nicole was one of 100 students who trained, then ran the last mile of the marathon. Nicole was inspired to participate in the marathon club by her love of running.

"I enjoy running and wanted to participate in an activity at my school," Nicole said. "We ran until we reached 25 miles. On the day of the Memorial Marathon, we ran the last 1.2 miles."

She has participated in many 5Ks and other events with her mom and older sister, Danelle Myrick-Devore. The Chickasaw family recently ran in the Skunk Run in Purcell, Okla., and the Rabbit Run in Ada.

"My family is very interested in physical fitness and is very active all the time," Nicole said. "I love to play outside and run with my new puppy, Bailey. My mom has run in hundreds of 5Ks and my sister is a soccer hall of famer from the University of Tennessee at Martin. I am so glad that I get to share this passion with them and most of all I get to be with my family."

On race day, Nicole was joined by mom Connie and sister Danelle to complete her goal of 26.2 miles. They visited the bombing memorial museum after their run, learning more about that day, and paying their respects.

Her school, Solider Creek Elementary, had the highest number of participants in the Kids Marathon this year.

Nicole is already planning her next 5K in Ardmore, Okla., and looking forward to Marathon Club again next year. In the meantime, she was practicing for a dance recital and receiving a bronze award for her Girl Scouts project - helping at the local animal shelter and with pet adoption groups. She sold over 800 boxes of cookies during the Girl Scout cookie sale.

"She is very active," her mother said.

The family is also very active in Chickasaw Nation activities. Ms. Myrick is a member of the OKC Metro Chickasaw Community Council. She and Nicole volunteer at the annual summer Devon Boathouse Day, setting up and enjoying canoeing, kayaking and running.

Nicole is also looking forward to attending Chickasaw Nation camps over the summer, including environmental camp and Ikbi Holisso Book Creation camp.

CONTRIBUTED BY Jennifer Jones, Public Affairs.

Nursing Career Fair aims to fill nursing positions

Chickasaw Nation Human Resource staff assist potential nursing employees at the Nursing Career Fair May 15 at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center in Ada.

ADA, Okla. – Registered and practical nurses gathered at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center May 15 for a Nursing Career Fair. The first-of-its kind event saw human resources personnel collaborate with the medical center to recruit and hire nurses to join the mission of the Chickasaw Nation.

More than 2,400 postcards describing a career in nursing with the Chickasaw Nation were mailed to potential employees. Available positions were in acute care, obstetrics, intensive care unit, emergency department and outpatient clinics.

Candidates were greeted with representatives from human resources, medical center staff and hiring managers.

"We have a great need for nursing staff, particularly, on our acute care nursing floor," medical center Deputy Director of Inpatient Nursing Alicia Boatright said. "Our goal is to get as many nurses as possible, especially if they are Chickasaw. But ultimately, the better staffed our nursing department is, the better quality care we can provide to our Chickasaw and Native American patients."

For more information, or apply online, visit chickasaw.net/careers or contact human resources at (580) 436-7259.

CONTRIBUTED BY Chris Roman Nose, Public Affairs.

Fournier receives Udall Congressional internship

AARON FOURNIER

WASHINGTON – A Chickasaw citizen has been awarded a prestigious Udall Foundation Native American Congressional internship.

Aaron Fournier will intern with the Department of the Interior, Office of the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

He is one of 10 students representing eight tribal nations selected for the honor by an independent review committee. The committee awards internships based on academic achievement and a commitment by students to pursue careers in tribal public policy.

Mr. Fournier is a native Oklahoman and first-year law student at the University of Oklahoma. He is employed at the South Central Climate Science Center. He is developing a handbook to assist university researchers cultivate working relationships with Oklahoma tribal citizens, while respecting Native customs.

He also conducts science camps introducing Native children to weather, climate, and natural sciences by encouraging participation in interactive experiments. In the future, he plans to work in Washington, D.C., where he may use his law degree to advocate for greater tribal sovereignty.

Mr. Fournier's nine-week internship begins this summer. From 1996 through 2017, a total of 255 Native American and Alaska Native students from 117 tribes have participated in the program named in honor of the late Morris Udall, a former presidential candidate, member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Arizona and proponent of self-determination and sovereignty for American tribal nations.

Rabbit Run 5K winners

Chickasaw citizens, Jacob Jones, left, and Josh Stewart placed second and first, respectively, at the Chickasaw Nation Rabbit Run 5K "Chokfi Malili," April 22, at the Purcell City Lake in Purcell, Okla.

Child Support Services to host annual awareness event

During August, mark your calendars to join the Chickasaw Nation Child Support Services as they celebrate Child Support Awareness month.

Bring your friends and family to celebrate Saturday, Aug. 5, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Chickasaw Community Center in Ada.

Child Support Awareness month is nationally recognized each year during the month of August to focus on the importance of providing financial support for children.

In an effort to create awareness in the Ada area, the Chickasaw Nation Child Support Services is conducting its annual tribal child support awareness campaign previously known as "I Love My Child."

This event recognizes child support professionals and parents who are committed to making a difference in the lives of children emotionally and financially.

Each year millions of children nationwide are affected financially due to parental separations. To help combat those statistics, the Chickasaw Nation Department of Child Support Services is cracking down on unfulfilled child support obligations by assisting families in the state of Oklahoma.

For more information about Child Support Awareness month or assistance in child support services, call (580) 436-3419 or visit www.chickasaw.net/ChildSupport.

CONTRIBUTED BY Taylor Owen, Public Affairs.

Chickasaw Abbie Burris accepted to West Point

ABIGAIL 'ABBIE' BURRIS

PIEDMONT, Oklahoma - A Piedmont senior cheerleader recently received word she had been accepted into the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.

Abigail "Abbie" Burris, 17, maintains a 4.2 grade point average. Her favorite subjects are science and mathematics, and she has excelled at competitive cheerleading for several years.

Only nine percent of West Point applicants are accepted each year. Of that nine percent, just 17-percent are female.

"I'm a little nervous, because it's a big change, but I know it will make me into a better person, and I get to serve my country," Abbie said.

She said she gets her inspiration from her parents. Her father is a member of the Norman Police Department. Her mother is a Criminologist with the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation.

Chickasaw sisters win in art contests

Chickasaw sisters Brooke and Rebecca Criner have had a string of wins in art contests this year. Together they won the Destin, Fla., Noon Year's Eve Sandcastle Competition (two years in a row), they both placed in the Dallas Area Rapid Transit Art Contest in their respective divisions, Brooke was a top ten finalist in 6th grade in the Texas Adopt a Beach Art Contest, Rebecca won first place in the 4th grade division in the ACSI Art Contest, and Brooke won first place in Region 4 in the Daughters of the Republic of Texas Art Contest.Both are great-great-grandchildren of John Criner, of Ardmore, Okla., for whom Criner, Okla., is named, as well as the Criner Hills outside of Ardmore. He is the origin of their proud Chickasaw heritage.

Our young people cross the stage, and enter the world to make a difference

TIM COLBERT

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Chokma!

Greetings from the Tishomingo District!

Many of our young Chickasaws recently graduated from high school, or are preparing to walk across the stage in the coming weeks.

This is an exciting time in these young peoples' lives; full of hope, goals and dreams of a bright future.

Fortunately, Chickasaw students have many opportunities available for education assistance, which gives them the tools and support to make their future goals more attainable.

Scholarships and grants are available from the Chickasaw Nation Education Department, as well as the Chickasaw Foundation.

The Foundation offers a wide variety of scholarships to students who excel in academics, community service, and dedication to Native Americans and a commitment to learning.

Students, regardless of where they live, who are pursuing undergraduate, graduate or doctoral degrees from an accredited college or university, are eligible to receive support.

Through support from our tribe in the form of educational scholarships, hundreds of Chickasaw citizens have been able to pursue higher education and training and have gone on to successful careers.

Chickasaws throughout the country represent our tribe in the fields of medicine, law, education, the arts or sciences, just to name a few.

Many of these citizens return to work for our tribe in an effort to contribute to the Chickasaw Nation's success and to enhance the lives of Chickasaw citizens.

Still others contribute to the Chickasaw Foundation scholarship fund, so others may have the great opportunities in which they were given.

Through these types of giving back, Chickasaw citizens are working to fulfill the Chickasaw Nation mission "to enhance the lives of Chickasaw citizens."

Our tribe is very blessed.

Governor Anoatubby supports and encourages education opportunity for all, therefore we invest in and support our youth, which will benefit us all in the future and keep our tribe resilient.

For more information education grants and scholarships, including guidelines, available scholarships and application deadlines, contact the Chickasaw Nation Department of Education Services at (580) 421-7711 or the Chickasaw Foundation at (580) 421-9030.

As always, thank you for allowing me to serve as your representative on the Chickasaw legislature. It is a privilege and an honor to serve you.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Chokma'shki,
Tim Colbert
Tim.Colbert@chickasaw.net
(580) 421-7242

Our tribe's dedication to education is demonstrated by our graduates

NANCY ELLIOTT

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Chokma, chinchokma, Hello, how are you?

Congratulations to all the graduates! From the youngest children who are experiencing their first graduation from Head Start or Preschool to those graduating with a college degree, I want you to know that the Chickasaw Nation is proud of you for completing your goal of making education a priority.

We know education opens doors. One of the most important ideas we as parents and grandparents can instill in our children is that education opens doors to their future. My parents always told me that through hard work and education I could be anything I wanted to be. Neither my father nor mother completed high school, but they believed that a good education was important. The Chickasaw Nation has made it a priority for our people to get the education they want so that they can achieve their goals.

Another priority of the Chickasaw Nation is supporting our families. There are many programs designed to give families the help they need when going through hard times. The Office of Strong Family Development can be reached at (580) 436-1222.

I've often said that the best part of my job as a legislator is getting to meet so many of our citizens at the gatherings and events throughout the year. Many new Chickasaw Citizen Connection groups have formed around the U.S. this past year, and I am hoping to get the chance to visit each one soon. If you want to know if there is a Chickasaw Citizen Connection group meeting near where you live, you can call the Community Outreach Office at (580) 332-1165. Attending these meetings is a great way to learn more about the programs offered to our citizens as well as our history and culture. It's also a great way to meet fellow Chickasaws. No matter where I go, I seem to always meet someone who's related to someone else that I already know. It's always fun to tell our stories and make those connections. I really appreciate the staff in the Community Outreach Office who keep us informed about the various meetings. They do a great job in coordinating the meeting times and locations with our citizens.

Every season is a busy time in the Chickasaw Nation, but it seems we really gear up during the summer. There is never a lack of something to do! I hope you can make a trip to visit our Cultural Center or historical sites. Another way to learn about our culture and history is by supporting the Chickasaw Press and purchasing the books they publish each year. One of the most recent books released by the Chickasaw Press is a book about one of our most famous leaders, Piominko, who was a contemporary of George Washington. "Piominko: Chickasaw Leader," by Dr. Tom Cowger and Mitch Caver, is now available online at chickasawpress.com or amazon.com. I was able to learn more about Piominko on one of our homeland trips. There is a statue of him in Tupelo, Mississippi. We can be proud of our Chickasaw leaders, past and present! I hope you have a great summer, and please let me know if I can help you in any way!

Chipisala' cho anowa, Until I see you again,
Nancy
Pontotoc District Seat 2
Nancy.Elliott@Chickasaw.net (580) 399-4374

Memorial Day is the special day we remember the sacrifices of our veterans

KATIE CASE

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Hello Everyone,

Although this letter won't be published until June, I am writing it in May. Memorial Day is approaching.

Memorial Day at my house is a complex, bittersweet holiday. It is an official time to somberly think of our loved ones who have passed, but also a time to humbly and gratefully remember with intense pride their sacrifices, especially the soldiers.

My oldest brother, Troy Wayne, served in Korea. I can still remember the pictures he sent home of himself in his parka and how cold he said the winters were there. He survived his time in Korea, but we lost him to a heart attack in 1972. He was just 31 years old.

My brother Jerry, who is just younger than me, served stateside in the Army, and my youngest brother, Steve, served in the Air Force. Jerry now lives and works in Nevada and Steve is retired and lives near me.

My Uncle David served in World War II, where he was severely burned, but survived. He carried the scars for the rest of his life.

My dad, Troy, served in World War II and was among the American soldiers who liberated Jewish prisoners from the infamous Auschwitz concentration camp. He carried unseen scars for the rest of his life.

My grandpa, Intolubby Underwood, served in the Army in World War I. He fought in the Battle of the Argonne Forest in France, arguably the bloodiest battle of WWI.

As I walk respectfully in and out of the graves at the cemetery to place flowers symbolizing our family's unforgotten love for all our passed family members, I think most about my grandpa's military service experience.

At 22, he volunteered to fight for The United States of America, the very country that had just a few generations before removed his people from their homelands to make way for white expansion.

He was part of the American forces that, despite getting ahead of their own supply wagons carrying food and ammo, caught up with the retreating Germans and fought in hand-to-hand combat in the Argonne Forest. I have his dented, scratched and scarred bayonet with brass knuckles that were presented to him by General Black Jack Pershing for fighting valiantly, to testify as to the veracity of the fight.

Grandpa said that they would have fought through Hell for General Pershing, and he said they were very near to it at The Battle of the Argonne Forest.

There he survived a German mustard gas attack and thankfully came home to start our family.

This Memorial Day, as I sort through the conflicting feelings of sadness and pride associated with the memories of my family members' military service, I will simultaneously be so grateful to all the men and women who have served and who are serving on our behalf.

Respectfully,
Katie

Business results solid, net income funding critical tribal programs

FINANCIAL REPORT

The tribal government caption includes the tribe's general fund and BIA trust funds. The Chickasaw Businesses include all of the businesses and operations of the Department of Commerce. Not included in the financial statements are federally or state funded programs and/or grants and the financial statements of Bank 2 and Chickasaw Nation Industries, Inc.

The growing needs of the businesses are taken into account when determining the transfers from the businesses to the general fund. It is vital to the long range mission of the Chickasaw Nation that the businesses continue to grow and diversify.

Revenues of tribal government, other than the transfer from businesses, include motor fuel settlement funds and investment income. Chickasaw Business revenues include gaming revenues net of prizes and other sales revenues from convenience stores, travel plazas, tobacco stores, other tribal businesses as well as rental and investment income.

Tribal expenditures are classified by function. General government includes the maintenance and operations of tribal property, the Chickasaw Times and Governor's and Lt. Governor's offices. Expenditures for education include education scholarships as well as the tribe's division of education. Health expenditures include eye glasses, hearing aids, prescription drugs, wellness center, community health clinics, catastrophic medical assistance and other similar programs not covered by federal programs or grants.

The businesses' expenditures are classified as to expenses associated with gaming operation of the tribe and the other businesses of the tribe.

Executive Summary of the Financial Statements of the period ending April 30, 2017

Tribal Government

Revenues and transfers from the businesses for operations and fixed assets totaled $17.1 million for the month and $127.7 million year-to-date. Expenditures were $10.7 million for the month and $89 million year-to-date.

Chickasaw Businesses

Revenue net of gaming prizes through April totaled $821.2 million. Net income before the transfers to the Tribal Government was $185.7 million year-to-date. After transfers to the Tribal Government for capital projects and tribal program operations the net income was $70 million year-to-date. The net income includes all revenue, including amounts reserved for business growth and expansion.

Statement of Net Assets

At April 30, 2017, the tribal government funds had $369.4 million in cash and investments. Of this amount, $23.2 million is in the BIA Trust funds. This total does not include any federal program funds.

The businesses had $348.9 million in cash and investments which is reserved for accounts payable and business operations.

As of April 30, 2017, tribal operations, excluding federal program funding, had net assets of $2.33 billion.

Chickasaw Nation
Tribal Operations
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
For the Seven Months Ended April 30, 2017

		Tribal Government	Chickasaw Businesses	Total
Revenues	$	11,971,638	821,152,310	833,123,948
Transfers From Businesses To Tribal Government		115,694,445	(115,694,445)	-
Total Funds Available		127,666,082	705,457,865	833,123,948
Expenditures				
General Government		4,407,544	-	4,407,544
Legislature		1,698,034	-	1,698,034
Judiciary		750,451	-	750,451
Education		14,498,313	-	14,498,313
Heritage Preservation		15,242,275	-	15,242,275
Health		11,674,684	-	11,674,684
Youth Services		3,255,070	-	3,255,070
Family Services		8,833,804	-	8,833,804
Nutrition Programs		4,132,811	-	4,132,811
Regulatory		7,606,394	-	7,606,394
Assistance Programs		16,893,475	-	16,893,475
Gaming Expense		-	464,684,409	464,684,409
Other Businesses' Expense		-	170,738,372	170,738,372
Total Expenditures		88,992,855	635,422,781	724,415,636
Increase In Net Assets		38,673,227	70,035,085	108,708,311
Beginning Net Assets		871,188,746	1,355,004,419	2,226,193,164
Ending Net Assets	$	909,861,972	1,425,039,503	2,334,901,475

Chickasaw Nation
Tribal Operations
Statement of Net Assets
April 30, 2017

		Tribal Government	Chickasaw Businesses	Total
Cash And Investments	$	369,439,360	348,906,311	718,345,671
Receivables		47,372,395	121,518,391	168,890,786
Inventory		6,781	7,533,854	7,540,634
Prepaid Expenses		-	28,180,153	28,180,153
Other Assets		-	1,078,139	1,078,139
Fixed Assets		494,781,216	1,113,305,437	1,608,086,653
Less Payables		(1,737,780)	(195,482,781)	(197,220,561)
Net Assets	$	909,861,972	1,425,039,503	2,334,901,475

The role of a legislator is to consistently serve our citizens fully and purposefully

Hello Everyone,

Isn't it a great time to be Chickasaw!

Being a Chickasaw Legislator comes with great responsibility and great reward. I have had the pleasure of serving Pickens District Chickasaw Citizens since 2008. Over the last nine years, I have met new people, made many new friends and reconnected with my heritage and culture.

CONNIE BARKER

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

As Legislators, we always have the citizens' best interest at heart. Whether we are voting on a resolution to fund a new business or voting on a resolution to approve the tribal budget, we take our roles very seriously. My first responsibility is to serve you, to be a connection between the individual citizen and the tribe, to hear your ideas and listen to your wishes.

Supporting our current and new programs is also a priority. Many citizens benefit from these programs whether it is through education, healthcare or elders programs. Our education department provides a wide variety of services to young and old. Ensuring these programs and others like them remain funded is an important role we play.

The reward of our job is the blessing we receive by serving you. As we travel throughout the Chickasaw Nation and visit citizens at large, we are reminded of the gratitude and pride each citizen feels for the tribe. Being a part of something that makes you a better person is where I want to be.

So the next time you visit with you Legislator, please remember that we take this role very serious and with God's blessing we will carry on his work of serving others.

God Bless you,
Connie Barker
Pickens District Seat 2

Update address online or by phone!

It is a happy new year when we can keep in touch with Chickasaw citizens!

Let us know your physical address with an easy address update online or by phone.

Receive important news, resources, guides and help us respond when you are affected by a natural disaster or weather emergency when you add your current information online at www.chickasaw.net/address or call (888) 661-0137.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Chickasaw Nation Legislative Finance Committee will hold a public hearing regarding the Consolidated Tribal Budget for Fiscal Year 2018 on Monday, June 19, 2017, at the Legislative Building, 801 North Mississippi Ave., Ada, Oklahoma, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Copies of the proposed budget are available for review at the Legislative Office in Ada.

Any Chickasaw citizen may address the Finance Committee at the hearings; provided, the citizen has notified Committee Chair Nancy Elliott in writing of his desire to speak and provides an agenda. A citizen may speak for up to 10 minutes. Chickasaw citizens may also present written comments, recommendations, information or questions at those meetings, provided, those written comments are presented to Committee Chair Nancy Elliott prior to the hearing's commencement.

The meetings shall be held in accordance with Title 10, Section 10-201.6 and following of the Chickasaw Nation Code. The Chickasaw Nation Code can be located at www.Chickasaw.net.

Chickasaw girls are 'on the move' as they enter college, US Military Academy

I am always excited when the opportunity arises to meet Chickasaw citizens. While in Oklahoma City, I had a chance to visit with Mrs. Mistie Burris. She and her husband, Brandon are excited about the graduation of their daughters, Kylie and Abbie. The twins attended Piedmont High School and were involved in a variety of activities. Kylie, (the oldest twin by 15 minutes) plans to attend Oklahoma City University next year where she has received academic scholarships, the Presidential Award and the College of Art and Science Departmental Award. While at Piedmont, Kylie enjoyed participating in track and field and cross county. In her spare time she likes to read and go hiking. She plans to major in Mass Communications at OKCU.

BETH ALEXANDER

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Younger sister, Abbie enjoyed being on the varsity cheerleading squad for all four years and she too participated in track and field. Abbie received a scholarship to attend West Point Academy. Approximately 9% of applicants to West Point, the United States Military Academy, actually receive admission. Of those that are admitted, only 17% are women. In addition to all of the strict criteria to be admitted, applicants must also have a congressional nomination. Abbie received a nomination from Senator James Inhofe and US Representative Frank Lucas. She will be the fourth generation Chickasaw to serve in the US Army. (Her dad, Brandon, grandfather, Russ and Great-grandfather Claud Burris.) She plans to major in the biomedical field.

They have an excellent supporting cast of siblings, Brenton, Colton and Jackie and grandparents, Russ and Carol Burris and Kathryn and Bill Spurgeon. These Chickasaw girls are on the move! Congratulations Kylie and Abbie!

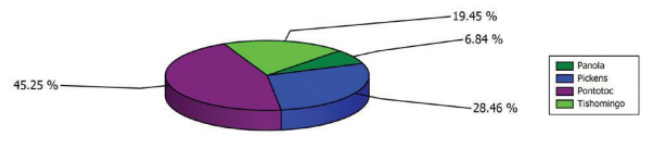
For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly. Psalm 84:11

Beth
PO Box 246
Achille, OK. 74720

Abbie and Kylie Burris

Count of Voters by District

Panola	2,252	Pontotoc	14,892
Pickens	9,365	Tishomingo	6,399
			32,908



Our tribe offers great opportunities to connect; take advantage today!

Chockma! Hello from Pontotoc District! Yakoke and thank you for allowing me to serve as your legislator. It has been a fast pace and a wonderful past several months attending various community council gatherings. I have a lot to learn and I am so grateful for our chairman David Woerz and secretary Toby Perkins, along with our entire team of legislators and staff mentoring me. Your Chickasaw legislature works hard to ensure your voices and concerns are heard and solutions are found.

LISA BILLY

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

We have incredible opportunities to be involved and connected with one another. I have enjoyed meeting our citizens and listening to creative ideas. Thank you to Chickasaw citizen Ms. Vadare Cornelisson for the work you are doing in New Mexico for the community connection gathering. And, thank you to Chickasaw citizen Anita Fissel who flew from Portland, Oregon to attend the annual Chickasaw Dynamic Women's Conference. I encourage everyone to attend the 2018 Dynamic Women's Conference in Sulphur, Okla., at the beautiful Artesian hotel. I learned so much this year and made many new friends!

I encourage you, wherever you live, to attend one of the many Community Connection meetings to hear from your legislators, meet Chickasaw citizens and enjoy food and fellowship. It really is a great way to let your voice be heard, learn new ideas, speak Chickasaw and perhaps enjoy one of our social dances.

We are the survivors of a great people. We have an opportunity and duty to carry forth our language, culture and way of life to the next generation.

I hope many of you will consider attending the annual elders conference and veterans conference in June at the Winstar casino.

Chipisala cho,
Lisa Johnson Billy
lisaj.billy@chickasaw.net
(580) 399-7083

Chickasaw Bar conducts spring legal education seminar; Court Camp set

Chokma! What an exciting month June 2017 has been for the Judicial Branch. Summer is here and in full swing. I hope everyone has a great summer and Happy Father's Day to all the fathers in Indian Country. I wanted to share with you a few sites to visit during the summer. These are places you can be visit and make wonderful memories. They are owned and operated by the Chickasaw Nation. Keep reading the articles and contact me with any questions. I am honored to serve the Chickasaw people.

CHERI BELLEFEUILLE-GORDON

Chief Justice Supreme Court

SUPREME COURT NEWS

Chief Justice Cheri Bellefeuille-Gordon, Justice Linda English Weeks and Justice Mark Colbert attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Inkana bridge in Sulphur, Oklahoma on April 18, 2017. Inkana means "friend" in Chickasaw. The Inkana bridge is a beautiful addition to the Chickasaw Nation Cultural Center. If you have time, please walk across the bridge and see the beautiful land in the Chickasaw National Recreational Area and the cultural center. This is a great partnership and I am looking forward to many walks in the park and visiting the cultural center.

Chief Justice Cheri Bellefeuille-Gordon and Justice Linda English Weeks attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Chickasaw Nation Information Center in Tishomingo, Oklahoma on April 25, 2017. The facility is beautiful when you get inside. Be sure and check out the gift shop area, Chickasaw Nation Tourism Department, tribal office of special events, and Johnston County Historical Society, and Johnston County Chamber of Commerce.

Chief Justice Cheri Bellefeuille-Gordon attended the dedication and open house for the Chickasaw Nation Tishomingo campus on April 25, 2017. The dedication was very nice. The facilities are the state of the art. The senior citizen site is a great place to have the seniors eat and fellowship. The Chickasaw Nation Head Start is a beautiful facility to have our young ones to learn. The cafeteria has beautiful scenery on the wall. You need to check it out and see all things in the scene from Oklahoma.

Chief Justice Cheri Bellefeuille-Gordon attended the

SEE **RESOLUTIONS,** PAGE 8

2016-2017 Tribal Legislature

Following is a list of the Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislators including their address and phone numbers. If you have any questions or need any information, please contact the legislator in your area.

Pontotoc District
Seat #

1. Toby Perkins
   15810 CR 1569
   Ada, OK 74820
   (580) 399-2606
   Toby.Perkins@chickasaw.net

2. Nancy Elliott
   620 Ann
   Ada, OK 74820
   (580) 399-4374
   Nancy.Elliott@chickasaw.net

3. Katie Case
   P.O. Box 145
   Stonewall, OK 74871
   (580) 272-8385
   Katie.Case@chickasaw.net

4. Seat of the late Dean McManus

5. Lisa J. Billy
   19259 150th Street
   Lindsay, OK 73052

Pickens District
Seat #

1. David Woerz
   P.O. Box 669
   Ardmore, OK 73402
   (580) 235-3240
   David.Woerz@chickasaw.net

2. Connie Barker
   509 SW 7th Ave.
   Marietta, OK 73448
   (580) 272-4175
   Connie.Barker@chickasaw.net

3. Linda Briggs
   P.O. Box 241
   Marietta, OK 73448
   (580) 272-7268
   Linda.Briggs@chickasaw.net

4. Shana Tate Hammond
   801 North Mississippi
   Ada, Oklahoma, 74820
   (580) 235-1438
   Shana.Hammond@chickasaw.net

Tishomingo District
Seat #

1. Scott Wood
   204 East Main Street
   Tishomingo, OK 73460
   (580) 221-1430
   Scott.Wood@chickasaw.net

2. Tim Colbert
   P.O. Box 773
   Sulphur, OK 73086
   (580) 421-7242
   Tim.Colbert@chickasaw.net

3. Steven Woods
   5071 Gray's Road
   Davis, OK 73030
   (580) 272-7270
   Steve.Woods@chickasaw.net

Panola District
Seat #

1. Beth Alexander
   PO Box 246
   Achille, OK 74720
   (580) 272-7850
   beth.alexander@chickasaw.net
   bethalexander22@hotmail.com

Saving the Women of Pontotoc County June Banquet

6-8 a.m., Monday, June 12
First Assembly of God Church
300 East 14th Street, Ada, Oklahoma

Please RSVP by June 6 by calling Debbie Wall at (580) 235-2090.

Bring a wedding picture or a favorite picture of you and your husband.

'We had a job to do, and we did it'

Korean War veteran Eugene Arpelar experienced 'Goodwill Trip Around the World'

Born in Arpelar, Oklahoma, a town named after his Chickasaw great-grandfather, Eugene Arpelar dreamed of adventure in faraway places. By the time he was seven, he had gotten as far as McAlester, Okla. Then World War II broke out.

"There was a real sense of community during that time," Mr. Arpelar, 84, said. "Everyone was real proud to be American"

Less than a decade later, the Korean War officially began while Mr. Arpelar was in high school. When it was his turn to enlist, he was decisive about the branch.

"My brother and some cousins were in the Army," Mr. Arpelar said. "I didn't want to go in the Army because I couldn't wear wool, and I knew the Army wore wool, so I wanted to join the Navy.

"I'm glad I did. It's a good outfit, and I appreciate it."

Mr. Arpelar was assigned to an aircraft carrier where he kept the planes, specifically F2H Banshees, fueled and maintained.

"The F2Hs had two jet engines," he said, "and they sounded like they were screaming. We called them 'screaming meemees.' They had to be catapulted off the ships. We never knew where they were going. We just took care of them."

After spending nine months off the shores of Korea, Mr. Arpelar and his company were sent back to their base in San Diego, and the war ended.

Nineteen-year-old Mr. Arpelar was immediately restless. He spent New Year's Eve 1954 at home in McAlester, but was anxious to get back to the "big city excitement" of San Diego.

There, he was presented with a new - and rather unusual - opportunity.

"They said, 'Hey, Arpelar, you want to go on a world cruise?'" Mr. Arpelar recalled. "I said, 'Are we going on a carrier?' They said, 'You bet.' So, I said, 'Ok, put me on it.'"

The world cruise was indeed a cruise to other parts of the world, but it wasn't a pleasure outing. The carrier, the USS Hornet, would take sailors like Mr. Arpelar to different countries to service U.S. Navy planes - and to show any locals they encountered how nice Americans could be.

"This was a tour for good relationships with other countries," Mr. Arpelar said. "The captain told us not to do anything rash because it was a 'goodwill cruise.' We were out there to show everyone we could be friends."

Mr. Arpelar, whose sharp wit and quick smile made him a favorite among his fellow sailors, saw the cruise as an opportunity to finally have a few adventures.

His first stop was Naples, Italy. Mr. Arpelar rallied his crewmates with an invitation to join him for a special dinner.

"I wanted to have spaghetti there," he said. "We have very good Italian food in McAlester, so I thought if we have spaghetti in the place where it originated, it's going to be the best spaghetti ever."

EUGENE ARPELAR

The sailors chose a restaurant and were happy to find that their waitress spoke English. From there, the experience took a turn for the worse.

"I ordered spaghetti, and I never was so disappointed," Mr. Arpelar said. "They brought me this spaghetti out with a little bit of sauce and a little piece of sausage on top of it.

"It kind of embarrassed me in front of the guys."

After experiencing Italy's version of spaghetti, the sailors went back to the Hornet, which soon departed for the Mediterranean Sea and around the Rock of Gibraltar.

The next day, the ship started a slow journey up the Suez Canal.

"The Suez is not a small canal," Mr. Arpelar said, "but that big carrier going through it made it seem small. We drew so much water, it left a water mark."

As they crawled along, Mr. Arpelar left his station and ventured out onto the ship's hangar deck to see if he could spot the Egyptian pyramids.

"A guy chewed me out for going out on the deck, and I still didn't see the pyramids," Mr. Arpelar said.

The Hornet entered the Red Sea that evening with a final destination of present-day Sri Lanka near India. In Sri Lanka, Mr. Arpelar spent a lot of time and effort persuading his friends to jump in the ocean with him.

"I wanted to be able to say I swam in the Indian Ocean," he said. "There were a couple of us, and we didn't have bathing suits, so we stripped down to our shorts and jumped in and swam around a little. We did it."

Mr. Arpelar's friends were mostly from the East Coast. When the tour arrived in Atsugi, Japan, however, he found a familiar name and number on a towel in his temporary bunk house.

"I was about to go out with my friends, and I spotted a number on a towel that indicated the sailor was from Oklahoma," Mr. Arpelar said. "And the name on it was RL Strong, the same name as one of our big football players from McAlester.

"My friends wanted to know what was holding me up, and I said, 'I see a towel with Oklahoma numbers on it.' They said, 'You Okies are always looking to see where the other Okies are at. Come on, let's go!'"

Mr. Arpelar woke up the next morning to the words "I've been waiting for you to wake up."

"There was Strong, sitting on the edge of his bunk," Mr. Arpelar said, laughing.

Mr. Strong was in Japan playing in the Navy's football league, which pitted base against base. He invited Mr. Arpelar to the game he was playing that night.

"So, we went to see a football game in Japan," Mr. Arpelar said. "They were giving away a Cadillac too, and a sailor won it. He ran out on the field, and they asked him what he had to say and he said, 'I can't drive!'"

Mr. Arpelar's goodwill tour eventually took him to places like the Philippines and Hong Kong before returning to the West Coast.

The cruise concluded after 10 months and many adventures for Mr. Arpelar. He was honorably discharged from the Navy in August 1956. Now living in his hometown of McAlester, he ponders the differences between his tour during war and his tour of goodwill and is grateful to have experienced both.

"I think about a lot of things now that I wouldn't have then," he said. "When you're 18 years old, you don't think about being afraid. I look back now and think I should have been scared during the war, but I didn't think anything about it then. It was routine.

"We had a job to do, and we did it. The rest was adventure."

Mr. Arpelar is featured this month in the 2017 Chickasaw Nation calendar.

CONTRIBUTED BY Breanne Hill, Public Affairs.

Tribe offers multiple resources to help with challenges of post-traumatic stress disorder

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is a mental health condition that some people develop after experiencing or witnessing a life-threatening event.

After a traumatic event, most people have painful memories. For many people, the effects of the event fade over time. But for others, the memories, thoughts and feelings do not go away - even months or years after the event is over.

PTSD can happen to anyone. It is not a sign of weakness. A number of factors can increase the chance someone will have PTSD, many of which are not under that person's control.

If stress reactions do not improve over time and become a disruption in everyday life, it is important to seek help to determine if PTSD is present.

Chickasaw Nation Outpatient Services offers individual, couples and family counseling services. For more information about scheduling an appointment, contact outpatient services at (580) 436-1222 or visit www.chickasaw.net/outpatient.

Military veterans who have seen combat or been on missions where they were exposed to dangerous experiences, may have an increased risk of PTSD symptoms.

About 11-20 of every 100 veterans who served in the military have PTSD in a given year.

The Chickasaw Nation Veterans Services Program provides assistance to Chickasaw veterans with the acquisition of veterans' benefits and services from Veterans Affairs and other veterans' organizations.

For more information about the Chickasaw Nation Veterans Services Program, visit www.chickasaw.net/veterans or call (580) 272-2550.

CONTRIBUTED BY Taylor Owen, Public Affairs.

GORDON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

dynamic women conference held at the Chickasaw Nation Artesian Hotel and Spa on April 27, 2017. The speakers were inspirational and dynamic in all their accomplishments. I'm proud to be a Chickasaw woman it is an inspiration to me to see so many other Chickasaw women who are successful in Indian Country.

The Chickasaw Nation Bar Association continuing legal education spring seminar was held on April 28, 2017, at Winstar Convention Center beginning at 8 a.m. This seminar was a 1/2 day seminar. There was a judicial panel which included Chickasaw Nation District Court Judge, Dustin Rowe, Eugene Bertman of the firm Talley, Turner & Bertman. Mr. Bertman is a Delaware Supreme Court Justice; Shannon Prescott is currently a Delaware Nation District Judge in Anadarko; Lisa Otipoby is a tribal judge for numerous tribal courts. Joe Balkenbush, Ethics Counsel of the Oklahoma Bar Association spoke on Ethics and Attorney Well Being. We also were pleased to have Jason Christopher, attorney from Ada who spoke on the updates in the criminal code of Oklahoma. This seminar was approved for 3 credit hours including 1 hour of ethics and approved by the Oklahoma Bar Association. We had 60 in attendance.

YAAKNI` INAALHPISAAT CHOKMA, Chickasaw Nation court camp is scheduled for June 12 and 13, 2017; this is a two (2) day camp from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., each day. One of our goals is to expose the camp students to the tribal court system in Indian Country. We hope our camp will influence the students to continue their education and to possibly pursue a job in the court system. We currently have 126 kids enrolled. We are also looking for ten (10) volunteers to assist with the group during the camp days. Any Chickasaw employee working toward IDP can call Connie Tillery, (580) 235-0281 to volunteer and receive IDP credit.

DISTRICT COURT NEWS

April 2017 Court Statistics

- 47 New court cases filed
- 226 Cases Heard in court
- 76 Citizens were assisted by the court advocates

Again, it is my pleasure to report on a busy and successful month in the Judicial Department. As always, thank you for allowing me to serve as your Chief Justice. It is a privilege and an honor to serve you. CHIPISALA` CHO ANOWA means "Until I see you again". Please contact me, I would love to hear from you (580) 235-0281 or cheri.bellefeuille-gordon@chickasaw.net.

Bank2 home loan voucher program offers many families home ownership opportunity

Chickasaw citizens Caitlynne Miller, left, and mother Kim Hulsey in front of Ms. Miller's Oklahoma City home. Ms. Miller and Ms. Hulsey each purchased homes using the Bank2 Home Loan Closing Cost Voucher in 2016. The 2017 voucher program runs through July 31. Visit www.bank2cc.com for more information.

Home ownership has been a dream that has been difficult to obtain for many Americans. But in one Chickasaw family, the dream was fulfilled for two generations through a program available at Bank2 in Oklahoma City.

Caitlynne Miller and her husband, Jared, had been frequent movers and renters, both in and out of the Oklahoma City area. However, they both knew that eventually they wanted to own their own home.

"It was always our endgame," Ms. Miller said. "With our oldest child getting ready to start school, we knew that we wanted a forever home."

The Millers qualified for the loan using the HUD 184 Home Loan Program for Native Americans and financing through Bank2, a national leader for Native American home loans and a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Chickasaw Nation.

The HUD 184 loan program offers qualified buyers a low down payment option and competitive interest rates, aspects that attracted Ms. Miller to that type of home loan.

In addition to qualifying for the loan, she received a $1,000 voucher as a part of Bank2 program designed to ease the burden of closing costs. Under the program, open to Chickasaw citizens and Chickasaw Nation employees, the voucher can be used at the time of closing strictly to pay home loan closing fees such as home inspections, property appraisals, and lender and title fees.

In 2016, the voucher program's inaugural year, Bank2 president and CEO Ross Hill said over 70 home buyers from four states took advantage of the home loan closing cost voucher.

"We are very pleased to be able to continue serving Chickasaw citizens and employees as they make one of the largest purchases in their lives," Mr. Hill said. "It is our hope that this program alleviates some stress of the home-buying process and helps them complete their dream of home ownership."

Ms. Miller learned about the program from her mother, Kim Hulsey, who was going through the process of buying a house under the Bank2 program. That discussion was a big influence on her decision to buy a house.

"She highlighted all of the pros, and the lower interest rate and the down payment assistance … those helped a lot," Ms. Miller said. "But I don't know we would have heard about it all without her."

The Millers closed on March 19, 2016; Ms. Hulsey just days later. Two generations – mother and daughter – realizing the dream of owning a home.

Closing on the home was also a defining moment for the whole family.

"This is really great with the kids, because we feel like this is the home where they will grow up, where the neighbors they meet will be their friends," Ms. Miller said. "At Christmas, this is where the tree and decorations will go and where we will always put them."

More information about the program can obtained by calling 1-877-409-2265 or by going to the Bank2 website at www.bank2cc.com.

Births

River Eva Chambers

River Eva Chambers was born March 24, 2017. She weighed 6 lbs., 4 oz. and measured 18.5 inches at birth.

She is the daughter of Justin Eagle Chambers and Loren Brooke Chambers, of Achille, Okla. She is the granddaughter of Lynn and Betty Chambers, Dewayne Protel and Jennifer Hodge, all of Achille, and Gregg Hodge of Colbert, Okla.

She is the niece of Paige Chambers, of Achille and Mandi Smith, of McKinney, Texas.

Luke Ryan Dupree

Luke Ryan Dupree was born at 8:47 a.m. April 10 at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center, Ada, Okla.

He is the son of Robert and Jennifer Dupree.

He is the paternal grandson of Robert and Margaret Dupree and the paternal great-grandson of Leota Allen.

He is the maternal grandson of Robert Stafford and the late Sondra Stafford. He is the maternal great-grandson of Reba Watkins.

His proud aunts are Katrina Boss, Shelly Polster, Cassie Dupree. Proud uncles are the late Tommy Jo Frazier and the late Clinton Dupree.

Proud great-grandparents are the late Frances Patterson, the late Thomas Hickerson and the late Mary Hickerson.

Leora Pearl Snyder

Leora Pearl Snyder was born April 13, 2017. She weighed 7 lbs., 11 oz.

She is the daughter of Thomas and Rebecca Snyder, of Altadena, Calif. She is the paternal granddaughter of Gene and Janice Snyder, of Sherman Oaks, Calif. She is the maternal granddaughter of Fred and Andrea Medina, of Pasadena, Calif.

Her father and grandfather are citizens of the Chickasaw Nation. She is the great-granddaughter of the late Cassie Pearl Archerd Snyder, an original enrollee born in the Chickasaw Nation, Indian Territory.

Daniel Lee Smith

Daniel Lee Smith was born March 24, 2017. He weighed 7 lbs., 15 oz., and measured 20 inches at birth.

He is the son of Chris and Esther (Shaw) Smith, of Norman, Okla. Daniel is the grandson of Rita Shaw, of Oklahoma City, and the late Ronald Shaw. He is the great-grandson of Oretha (Ruth) Hilton, of Tuttle, Okla.

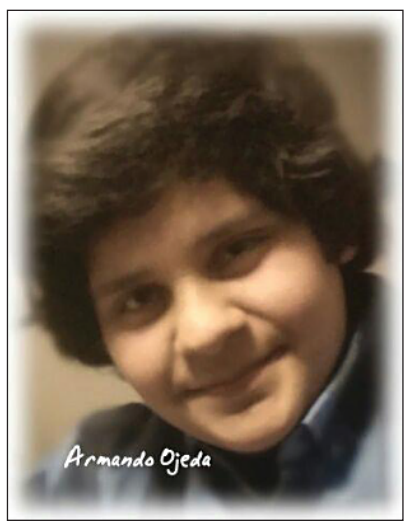
Birthdays

Virginia (Hull) James

Virginia (Hull) James was born June 14, 1916, in Maysville, Okla. She married the late Austin H. James. The couple had two boys, William D. James and Clifford A. James.

Clifford is married to Laura Breitkreutz and William was married to the late Sharon K. Decker. There are four grandchildren: Jeff James, Chad James, Tami (James) Wright and Kent James; and seven great-grandchildren: Desiree, Ashton, Nathan, and Caleb Wright; and Terrance, Seth, and Madison James; three great-great-grandchildren: Noah and Gracelynn Ailey; and Aubrey Wright

Mrs. James enjoys working at home gardening, canning, cooking, sewing and quilting. She loves her children and grandchildren. Holidays are always a great time at her house, building memories all can cherish. More recently, her declining health has restricted her from these activities.



Ricky 'Armando' Ojeda

Ricky "Armando" Ojeda celebrated his sixteenth birthday April 26, 2017 with friends and family. He is a sophomore at Madill High School, Madill, Okla., and looking forward to summer break this year.

After high school he plans to attend college at Southeastern Oklahoma State University (SOSU) in Durant.

We are very proud of the young man he has become and looking forward to the young man he is yet to become.

He is the great-great-grandson of Edmond Porter Sr., an original enrollee and I am sure he would be as proud of our son as we are.

We love you more than anything!

Mom and Dad

Charlette Black Squyres

Chickasaw runner in Boston Marathon

Chickasaw citizen Charlette Black Squyres, 46, completed the Boston Marathon on Patriot's Day April 17, 2017, with a personal best time of 3:40:42. She placed in the top 12.5% of her age division and qualified to run the race again in 2018.

The weather was unexpectedly warm and the medical aid stations had to tend to a record 1,200+ runners suffering from heat exhaustion symptoms.

Ms. Black Squyres is the daughter of Gayle Wilson Black, niece of Elven Lynn Wilson, and granddaughter of Maxine Cockrell, Chickasaw citizen, who was born in Pauls Valley, Okla.

Mid-Del Schools names Nathan Elliott Head Principal at Kerr Middle School

Nathan Elliott

The Mid-Del (OK) Board of Education has named Nathan Elliott Head Principal for Kerr Middle School beginning in summer of 2017.

He replaces Andy Collier who has taken the position of Director of Student Activities for the District.

Kerr Middle School has approximately 600 students and 40 teachers on site.

Mr. Elliott has served as assistant principal of Kerr Middle School for the past two years. In his seventeen years of service to public education, he has served as a teacher, coach and administrator. He is a graduate of Ada (OK) Public Schools where he also began his teaching career.

Mr. Elliott and his wife Christie have two daughters.

He is the son of Chickasaw Nation Legislator Nancy Elliott.

Chickasaw soccer players lead team to victory

Chickasaws Dylan Hearrell, left, of Richmond, Texas and Blake Havern, of The Woodlands, Texas recently led the 98/99 Texans Elite Soccer team to a 2-1 victory over the Lone Star 99's at Burroughs Park in Tomball, Texas.

Wiseman tabbed for Wilburton Hall of Fame

Craig Wiseman, left, a Chickasaw elder, was recently inducted into Wilburton (OK) High School Athletic Hall of Fame. Mr. Wiseman was cited for his all-around athletic ability in football, basketball and track for the Diggers. He was an Honorable Mention All-Stater in football, the second leading scorer on his state semifinal basketball team and a track state qualifier in shot put and discus. He is a 1968 graduate of Wilburton High School. At right is Hall of Fame selection committee member Clyde Wooldridge.

Chickasaw Honor Club, May 2017 recipient

KENLEY HARDEN

Kenley Harden, daughter of Timothy and Kyla Harden of Ada, Okla., is a recipient of the Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award for Academic Achievement.

Kenley is in second grade at Hayes Elementary School, Ada, Okla. She was nominated by her teacher, Diane Stilwell.

"Kenley is a talented second-grader who impresses me with her passion for art and her artistic ability," Ms. Stilwell said. "Her artwork is full of amazing details. She enjoys teaching her classmates how to draw interesting characters on the smartboard.

"Kenley is a patient and caring student who is the first to help a student struggling, whether it be emotionally or academically. She demonstrates empathy and caring for others feelings throughout the year. There's a reason why everyone wants to sit next to her in class!"

Kenley maintains straight A's in school while also pursuing multiple sports and using her artistic abilities. She was the youngest member of the Greater Ada Swim Team at age 6, and has trained in gymnastics and played soccer for the last two years.

Kenley is known as a kind and giving friend. She loves going to church and helps lead worship on Sundays.

Chickasaw Southeastern graduates 2017

Spring 2017 Chickasaw graduates of Southeastern Oklahoma State University gathered at the Native American graduation reception May 3. Pictured with Governor Anoatubby are six of the 14 Chickasaw graduates. From left, Gov. Bill Anoatubby, Kailey Garner (bachelor's), Undersecretary of Tribal & Commercial Health Chris Anoatubby (master's), Clovis Hamilton (master's), Catie Hamilton (master's), Alexis Olguin (bachelor's) and Traci Medler (master's).

Photo submitted.

Sarah Elizabeth Chappell

Sarah Elizabeth Chappell is a senior at Mount St. Mary (MSM) Catholic High School, Oklahoma City. She is the daughter of Tim and Dana Chappell. She is the granddaughter of Bill and Janet (Turner) Fallwell and the late Joseph and Janet Chappell.

Sarah is a member of the National Honor Society, the varsity volleyball team, the Latin Club, the rowing team, and Mercy Girls. She is a member of treble choir at MSM and recently placed second in the state competition. Sarah has been active in the competitive club volleyball for the last seven years, competing in Oklahoma, Texas, Colorado, Kansas and Arkansas. She enjoys rowing on the Oklahoma River and coaching volleyball.

Her plans are to attend Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colo., to pursue a degree in early childhood/elementary education. Her goal is to someday work for the Chickasaw Nation Head Start program as a teacher.

Christina Lyn Bowers

Christina Lyn Bowers is a 2017 graduate of West Allis Central High School, West Allis, Wis. She is the daughter of Kenneth and Jodi Lee Bowers of Milwaukee. She is the granddaughter of Oleta Partl. Christina is the great-granddaughter of Olive (Jacobs) Doxtator, the great-great-granddaughter of Annie (Seely) Tise, and the great-great-great-granddaughter of Dave Seely, who was one of the original Chickasaw senators.

She played on the freshman basketball team at school, then continued as a member of the Catholic Youth Ministry basketball team at her church. She was a four-year member of the school's swim team and her senior year she was active in the Irving Swim Program which involved assisting and interacting with special-needs children. Christina traveled with her church's mission trip to Boston, where she helped with the remodeling and landscaping of the home of an elderly woman, who was unable to afford the repair. Her love for music allowed her to enjoy singing and playing guitar in her church's youth choir.

Her plans are to pursue a degree in education at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She has a love of science, anthropology and paleontology that she wishes to share at a middle school level.

Nic McIntire

Nic McIntire is a 2017 graduate of Moore High School, Moore, Okla. He is the son of Jim and Debi McIntire. He is the grandson of Bill and Rose Steffens and the great-grandson of Joe and Yvonne Robinson.

He is a proud Moore Lion and athlete. He has played soccer, wrestling and football. He was active in Drama III and loved acting and theatre.

He has been accepted to the University of Oklahoma.

We are so blessed by this young man and so excited for his future! We love Nic and are so proud of you!

Braden Marshall Lewis

Braden Marshall Lewis is a 2017 graduate of Lewis Academy Homeschool. He is the eldest son of Bradley and Heather Lewis, of Blanchard, Okla. He is the grandson of Buddy and Carole Lewis, of Lewisville, Texas and Ron and Jamie Spence, of Kingston, Okla. He is the great-grandson of Lucy Kaney Beavers who was an original enrollee.

He has excelled throughout his education career while running his own mowing business, working 20-40 hours a week and participating in church youth band as the lead drummer.

He is enrolled for summer and fall at Oklahoma City Community College. His plans are to enter university after finishing basics at OCCC, then enjoy a career in cyber defense after graduating from university.

Braden is proud of his Chickasaw heritage and very grateful for the generosity of the Chickasaw Nation.

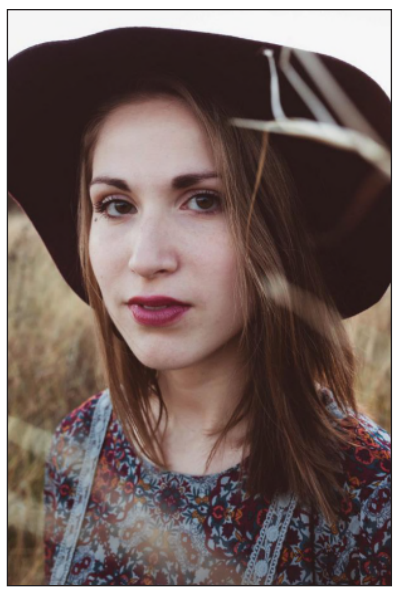
Matthew Skye Stafford

Matthew Skye Stafford is a 2017 graduate of Konawa High School, Konawa, Okla. He is the son of David and Jeri Beth Stafford. He is the grandson of Jean and Rick Williams, Sarah Marsh, the late Jerry Marsh and the late David R. Stafford.

Matt attended Konawa High School for one year and is a part-time student at Seminole State College, Seminole, Okla. He was active in Future Farmers of America (FFA), played high school football, basketball and baseball. He enjoys playing competitive club soccer and spending time outdoors.

His plans are to attend The University of Oklahoma to pursue a degree in communications and journalism.

Laura Elizabeth Clayton



Laura Elizabeth Clayton is a 2017 graduate of of Tyler, Texas, is a 2017 high school graduate after having been home-schooled and taking classes at Venture Academy Co-op. She is the daughter of Jack M. "Bud" Clayton and Rebecca Clayton. She is the granddaughter of the late Don and June Leake and Jack and Glenda Clayton. She is the great-granddaughter of original enrollee, Mary Annetta Collins. She is the niece of Beth Alexander, Chickasaw Legislator Panola District.

Laura enjoys spending time with her siblings, Heath Clayton, Ben and Ellen Clayton and Jared Clayton.

Laura was an "A" student and active in student council. She served as vice president of the Voices of Faith Community Choir and was an active member for seven years. She was an active member of the Fellowship of Christian Swordsmen, and the Drama with a Point Theatrical players. She took part in many plays and demonstrations, using sword fighting to present spiritual truths.

Laura enjoys writing, blogging, sword fighting, spending time with friends and family and drinking hot tea!

She is currently looking into teaching or speech pathology as a vocation.

Justice Frazier

Justice Frazier is a 2017 graduate of Morris High School, Morris, Okla. She is the daughter of Christy and Cody Carson and Dusty and Amanda Shade. She is the granddaughter of Gary and Vickie Dixon.

Justice carries a 4.0 Grade Point Average (GPA) and has taken concurrent classes at Oklahoma State University. She is a member of the National Honor Society and will serve as valedictorian of her class. She was named All-Conference and All-Region in fast pitch softball and was a state qualifier in track, and state semi-finalist in slow pitch softball and was named to All State in slow pitch.

She plans to attend St. Gregory's University, Shawnee, Okla., on a softball scholarship and the university's highest academic scholarship. She has been asked to be in the honors program at St. Gregory's.

Alexis JaDawn Lambert

Alexis JaDawn Lambert is a 2017 graduate of Stonewall High School, Stonewall, Okla. She is the daughter of Michael and Amber Lambert and the sister of Austin and Adysin Lambert. She is the granddaughter of Joe and Lanette Lambert and Don and Cheryl Lawrence, all of Coalgate, Okla.

Alexis lettered in fast-pitch, basketball and slow-pitch four years. She was selected to be a member of the All-State teams in each sport, which gives her the honor of being a three-sport all-stater. She has also received many honors and awards throughout her high school sports career. Alexis has been a member of the National Honor Society and the Chickasaw Honor Club.

Alexis plans to attend Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College in Miami, Okla., where she will major in sports management and pursue her dream of playing college basketball.

Paige Young

Paige Young is a 2017 graduate of Latta High School, Ada, Okla. She is the daughter of Kellie Mullins and Todd Young. She is the granddaughter of Terry Davis, George and Judy Welch and Les and Carol Carter.

Paige is a member of the National Honor Society, a Chickasaw Honor Student and an employee with the Chickasaw Nation Summer/After School Child Care program.

Her plans are to attend medical school to become a dermatologist.

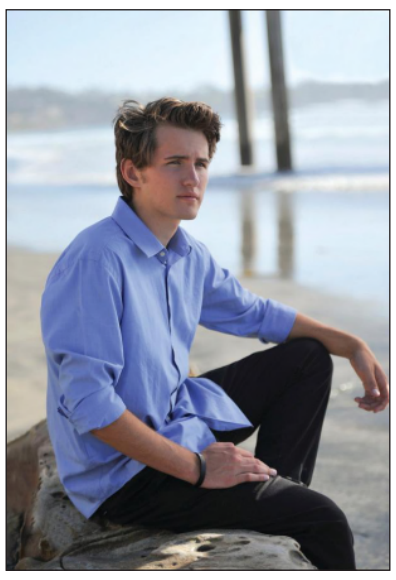
Christian Douglass Avy

Christian Douglass Avy is a 2017 graduate of Ronald Wilson Reagan High School, Pfafftown, N.C. He is the son of Todd and Jocie Avy. He is the grandson of Nancy Douglass, Peggy Young and Garnet Avy.

His activities include the academic team, track, beach volleyball, Reagan Clean Water Project, Outdoor Adventure Club and the Winston-Salem Youth Advisory Council.

Christian plans to attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to pursue a degree in journalism.

Jacob O'Mara



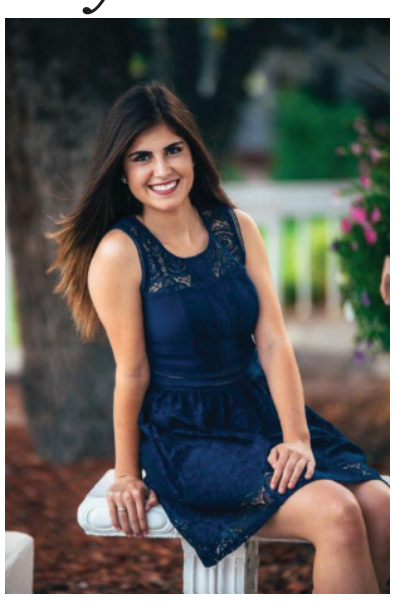
Jacob O'Mara is a 2017 graduate of Heartland Christian High School, Spring Valley, Calif. He is the son of Steve and Patricia O'Mara. He is the grandson of the late Patrick and Lola Flynn and the late Timothy and Bernadine O'Mara.

Jake is a talented musician and plays guitar in his school's music class. He started his own band, Valkyrie Missile. He also started his own skateboard company, Blu Curb Skateboards, along with a friend of his. He has been active in his church's youth group and plays in the youth group worship band.

Jake plans to attend Grand Canyon University in the fall, majoring in worship ministry.

We love you Jake and are so proud of you!

Brianna Bailey



Brianna Bailey is a 2017 graduate of Broomfield High School, Broomfield, Colo. She is the daugher of Brad and Antionette Bailey. She is the granddaughter of Keith and Lois Bailey and Art and Stella Roybal.

She will graduate May 20 with a 4.137 GPA and will be attending the University of Gonzaga in Spokane Washington. Bri was named homecoming queen this past fall at BHS and was recently voted by her classmates as the student with the most school spirit.

She is a member of the National Honor Society and the founder of the Eagle's Nest Club, a club designed to help with the transition of students from other schools to BHS. She is a member of the student council, Broomfield Teen Council, Blue Crew Commissioner, Circle of Friends and serves as senior class co-president, lettered in basketball in 2015 and was an assistant to the Broomfield High School athletic trainer for all sports this past year.

Bri is a member of the American Indian Youth Leadership Initiative (AIYLI), and in March of 2017, she was the master of ceremonies for the Native Youth Leadership Conference, a two-day event held at the University of Denver. She was recently selected by Spirit of the Sun Inc., to attend the Generation Indigenous (Gen I) Storytelling Regional's in Seattle. Gen I was launched by President Obama on December 3rd, 2014, and is a Native Youth Initiative focused on removing barriers that stand between Native youth and their opportunity to succeed. Bri received the Chickasaw Honors Outstanding Achievement Award in 2009 and 2014.

Bri is a very active in the Broomfield Community volunteering with Precious Child, Heart-Smart, and BHS vs. Legacy Faculty Charity Basketball Game co-chair (Over $20,000 raised for the Make-A-Wish Foundation).

Kristen Taylor Wolfe

Kristen Taylor Wolfe is a 2017 graduate of Ford High School, Quinlan, Texas. Kristen is the daughter of Rodney and Tammy Wolfe. She is the granddaughter of Mary Carroll.

She is graduating in the top 10% of her class. She was a seven-year member of the band program and a four-year member of the wind ensemble and the jazz program. She qualified for All-region, area and state for her performance on flute and baritone saxophone. She served as drum major the past two years, is a member of the National Honor Society, the National Society for High School Scholars and Phi Theta Kappa. She was selected to be part of the Youth in Action Youth Tour and will be going to Washington, D.C. this summer.

Her plans are to attend Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Durant to pursue a degree in music. After completing her degree in music, Kristen hopes to obtain a position teaching music/band in Oklahoma.

We are very proud of Kristen and look forward to seeing her accomplish her goals in life.

Noah Kuder

Noah Kuder is a 2017 graduate of Patriot High School, Nokesville, Va. He is the son of Paul and Kara Kuder. He is the grandson of Jackie and Marvin Mann. He is the great-grandson of Earlene and David Miller.

Noah has entered the U.S. Marine Corps. After his high school graduation, Noah will complete his 13 weeks of recruit training at boot camp in Parris Island, S.C.

Logan R. Miller

Logan R. Miller is a 2017 graduate of Henderson County High School, Henderson, Ken. He is the son of John and Johnna Miller. He is the grandson of Junior and June Miller and Martha Sandefeur.

He carries 3.5 grade point average (GPA). He is a cancer survivor (leukemia). He earned many awards in Scouts and built a mini theater at John James Audubon State Park, Henderson. He is a member of Niagara Methodist Church.

He has been accepted to Flagler College, Florida.

Brendan Anoatubby

Brendan Anoatubby is a 2017 graduate of Ada High School, Ada, Okla. He is the son of Chris and Becky Anoatubby, of Ada, and the grandson of Gov. Bill and Janice Anoatubby and Gary and Linda Self, of Ada.

Brendan served as vice president of the 2017 Cougar senior class. He is a member of the National Honor Society, National Indian Honor Society and the Ada High Student Council. He was voted Mr. Ada in 2015. He is active in Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) and is a member of the Ada Cougar football team. Brendan qualified for the International Career Development Conference through Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) in 2015 and 2017.

Brendan is an active member of Trinity Baptist Church, of Ada, where he serves on the youth leadership and worship teams.

Brendan plans to attend the University of Oklahoma in the fall and major in architectural engineering, with a minor in business. He has been selected for the 2017-2018 OU Presidential Leadership Class.

Annamarie Elizabeth Wright

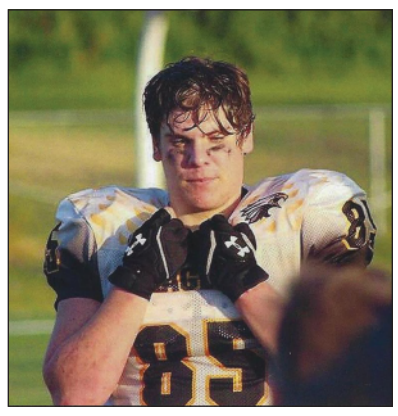
Annamarie Elizabeth Wright is a 2017 graduate of Heritage High School, Littleton, Colo. She is the daughter of Ellen Shamas-Brandt and Doug Wright. She is the granddaughter of Annawyn and Jimmy Shamas and Betty and Clay Wright. She is the great-great-great-granddaughter of Colbert Ashalatubby Burris. Academically, Annamarie has been on the Honor Roll her sophomore, junior, and senior years. She loves playing the cello and has been involved in several orchestra groups at school; the stringed orchestra, chamber orchestra and "Strings of Christmas" outreach ensemble. Sthe won the Outstanding Sophomore, Outstanding Junior and Overall Orchestra awards, and was selected for the Continental League Honor Orchestra three years. Annamarie played the cello in the pit orchestra for her school's musicals, "No, No, Nanette" and "The Addams Family." Outside of school, Annamarie has performed in the Colorado Youth Symphony Orchestra. At Littleton United Methodist Church, Annamarie has played in the youth handbell choir and orchestra and conducted an orchestra piece for Youth Sunday her junior year. She also joined the marching band as a percussionist her junior and senior years and served as the Co-Pit Section Leader this past year. In the fall of 2016, her section won the "Best Section" award and the "Most Improved Section" award. She was also voted to have the "Best Attitude" by her peers. Due to her heavy involvement in the music department at Heritage High School, Annamarie earned a varsity letter for three of her high school years. Annamarie also plays the piano. She was selected to play with her duo piano partner at the United States International Duo Piano Competition. Annamarie loves reading, learning new things and most of all music.

Annamarie plans to attend the University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, Wash., to pursue a degree in music education.

Logan James Engle

Logan James Engle is a 2017 graduate of Central High School, Keller, Texas. He is the son of David Engle and Bobbie Culp. Logan is 1/16 Chickasaw. He graduates at the top of his class with excellence in band. He played the bassoon, contra and piano. Logan became an Eagle Scout in August 2016. He plans to attend Oklahoma Christian University in the fall to pursue a degree in medicine. Logan is the nephew of Pat Woods.

Emmanuel Krips



Emmanuel Krips is a 2017 graduate of William Howell High School, Waterville, Kans. He is the son of Greg and Pam Krips.

He is a home-schooled superstar. His activities include Christian Youth in Action, five years; youth group; Manhattan Eagles football, five years; voted most valuable lineman; and all-conference offensive and defensive lineman, two years.

He plans are to study photography at Cloud County Community College and marine biology at Southwestern College.

Madeleine Ray

Madeleine Ray is a 2017 graduate of Cherry Creek High School, Greenwood Village, Colo. She is the daughter of Keith and Nicol Ray. She is the granddaughter of Robert and Judy Nichols, Pamala Nichols and Dan and Charlene Ray.

She was involved with many clubs during her high school years including Family, Career and Community of America (FCCLA) and Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA). She has spent time volunteering with Habitat for Humanity and being an active member of the Cherry Creek Presbyterian youth group. To keep active she was a part of both the competitive and varsity cheer teams for many years. During the off-season she works with the varsity wrestling team as the manager. Madeleine has earned four "Letters" of award with Varsity Cheer, DECA and wrestling.

With excitement, Madeleine has enrolled in Fort Lewis College starting in the fall to study aerospace engineering.

Sally Ann Pollock

Sally Ann Pollock is a 2017 graduate of Duncan High School, Duncan, Okla. She is the daughter of Casey and Brandy Pollock.

Sally serves as a Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) officer. She is a member of the Powerhouse Academy Performance Company dance team and is active with the Chickasaw Nation dance program. She is also a member of Parkview Baptist Church.

Sally plans to attend East Central University, Ada, Okla., to pursue a degree in psychology while minoring in dance. She has been selected as a member of the ECU pom team for the 2017-2018 year.

Caitlyn Marie Sparlin

Caitlynn Marie Sparlin is a 2017 graduate of Ardmore High School, Ardmore, Okla. She is the daughter of Jay and Clarice Shirley, of Ardmore, and Joe and Wendy Sparlin, of Denton, Texas. She is the granddaughter of Delores Monetathchi, Tishomingo Okla., and Joe Sparlin, Ardmore and the late Annette Burris Biggs. She is the great-granddaughter of Joe and Mary Underwood, full-blood Chickasaws.

While taking advanced placement courses, Caitlynn maintained a 3.85 grade point average (GPA) and finished in the top 10% of her class. She was active in cheerleading two years, a member of the National Honor Society two years and a member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). She was a four-year starter on the Ardmore High School softball team and served as captain during her senior year. In softball, she was named All-District Honorable Mention her sophomore and junior seasons and All-District 1st Team her senior season. She was also named to the Vype's High School Magazine SWOK Softball Team.

Caitlynn plans to attend the University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond to pursue a degree in psychology.

Caitlynn is a proud Chickasaw citizen and a former Little Miss Chickasaw Princess.

Caitlynn, we are so proud of you and can't wait to see what great things you do in the future! We Love You BIG!

Isaiah Lee Ott

Isaiah Lee Ott is a 2017 graduate of Latta High School, Ada, Okla. He is the son of Lisa and Brandon John and Chris Ott. He is the brother of Miko Cain Ott and the grandson of David and Sharon Poe. He is the great-grandson of Leona Wilson, full-blood Chickasaw.

Isaiah lettered in basketball the past four years and helped his team win the 2017 2A State Championship.

He plans to attend East Central University after graduation to pursue a degree as a physical therapist.

Zachary Staton

Zachary Staton is a 2017 graduate of Arlington High School, Arlington, Texas. He is the son of Brian and Tammy Staton. He is the grandson of Benny and Karen Courtney. He is the great-great-grandson of Willie and Mattie Lee Courtney.

Zachary has excelled academically with a 3.6 grade point average (GPA) and lettered in wrestling while on the Arlington High School varsity wrestling team. He is a member of the City of Pantego Youth Leadership Council.

His plans are to study radiation therapy at Texas State University.

Mark Trotter

Mark Trotter is a 2017 graduate of Charlotte Christian School in Charlotte, N.C. Mark is the son of Paul and Kathy Trotter.

In 2016, Mark received both the Gavel Award at the Harvard Model Congress and the University of Rochester Xerox Award for Innovation and Information Technology. This year, he served as the lead engineer for Charlotte Christian's robotics team. Mark is an AP Scholar and a member of both the National Honor Society and the Chickasaw Honor Club. In April, he received the President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence.

Mark was active in scouting, earning the Eagle Scout award with bronze and gold palms, and serving as a Senior Patrol Leader and Philmont Crew Leader. Throughout high school, he played the trumpet in Charlotte Christian School's wind ensemble and spirit band.

Mark plans to attend Clemson University in Clemson, S.C., where he intends to major in computer engineering.

Matthew Armor

Matthew Armor is a 2017 graduate of Norman North High School, Norman, Okla. He is the son of Gina Waller Hill and stepson of Kenyon Hill. He is the grandson of Mike Waller and the late Camille Waller.

Matthew won the Oklahoma State Geography Bee and represented Oklahoma at the National Geographic Bee in Washington, DC, in 2013. He has been a member of the Chickasaw Honor Club since elementary school, a member of the Oklahoma Indian Student Honor Society since 2015 and a member of the National Honor Society his junior and senior years. Matthew has played viola in the Norman North Orchestra four years and was the viola section leader for the philharmonic orchestra. He served as team captain for the Norman team at the Chickasaw Challenge bowl in 10th grade.

Matt volunteers with the Assisteens of Norman and is a member of the Native American Club at Norman North High School.

Matthew has been accepted and plans to attend the University of Oklahoma to pursue a degree in geography.

Matthew is a godly, principled, hardworking and talented young man. His family is very proud of him.

Congratulations Matthew - You have a great future ahead of you!

Kelsee Paige Trainham

Kelsee Paige Trainham is a 2017 graduate of Holliday High School, Holliday, Texas. She is the daughter of John and Lisa (Russell) Trainham. She is the granddaughter of the late Henrietta Winkler and Franklin Stallings and Dolores Trainham and the late Charles Trainham.

Kelsee was active in volleyball, softball and basketball all four years in high school. She was named first team All-District in volleyball her junior year and Utility Player of the Year as a junior in softball. She was first team all-district in volleyball and softball her senior year and Academic All-State in both sports her senior year. Kelsee served as a student council officer and a member of the National Honor Society, Future Farmers of America (FFA) and Texas Association of Future Educators. Kelsee graduated in the top 10% of her class.

She plans to attend Texas A&M University to pursue a degree in animal science.

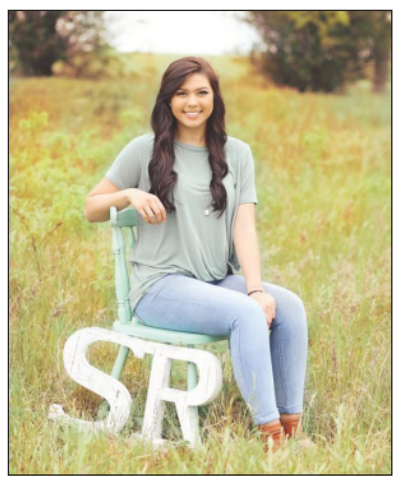
Mason Todd Spence

Mason Todd Spence is a 2017 graduate of Bowie High School, Austin, Texas. Mason is the oldest son of Logan and Cynthia Spence, of Austin. He is the grandson of Ron and Jamie Spence, of Kingston, Okla., and Pat and Jackie Steed, of Childress, Texas. He is the great-grandson of original enrollee Lucy Kaney Beavers.

Mason is a member of the National Honor Society and the nationally acclaimed Bowie High School marching band's drumline. While attending high school Mason worked part-time as a lifeguard. He serves as a coach of his community swim team and teaches Sunday school at his church.

Mason has been accepted to the University of Texas in Austin and will begin studying to become a physical therapist.

Jaden Chaeann Underwood



Jaden Chaeann Underwood is a 2017 graduate of Wylie High School, Abilene, Texas. She is the daughter of Ben and Brandi Underwood, Abilene, and Kayla Carter, Ada, Okla. She is the granddaughter of Barbara and Jack Underwood, Stratford, Okla., and Leann Crabtree, Ada, and the late Tony Carter.

Jaden's accomplishments include four years basketball, track and cross-country and three years Tri Hi Y Club and lifeguarding.

Jaden plans to attend San Angelo State University in the fall.

Jalen Grant Underwood

Jalen Grant Underwood is a graduate of Byng High School, Ada, Okla. He is the son of JD and Gina Underwood. He is the grandson of Barbara and Jack Underwood and Kathy and Rodger Gilchrist and Gene Postoak.

Jalen finished with a 4.0 grade point average (GPA) and served as co-valedictorian of his class. He is a member of the National Honor Society and active in cross-country, track, band and jazz band.

Jalen was on the cross-country teams that made four consecutive trips to the Class 4A state meet, with two regional championships, a third-place finish at state in 2014 and state runner-up in 2015.

In track, his 4x800 meter relay team finished regional champions and fifth place at the Class 4A state meet in 2016, where the team set a new school record for the event. He was also a member of the Byng High School band where he individually earned superior rating for saxophone solo at regional's and excellent rating at state. He was also a part of the woodwind trio that received a superior at regional's and excellent at state. The band received numerous awards and superior ratings throughout his five years as a member of the high school band.

Jalen has been accepted to the University of Oklahoma and plans to major in biology where he will work toward becoming a radiologist.

Jordan Cole Perry

Jordan Cole Perry is a 2017 graduate of Mansfield High School, Mansfield, Texas. He is the son of James and Tina Perry. He is the grandson of Wilma Shipman and the late Roy Shipman and Imogene Perry and the late John Perry. He is the great-grandson of the late Burl and Bonnie Griffith.

Jordan is a member of the Explorer Post Program at the Mansfield Police Department. He has participated in martial arts and played basketball. He enjoys listening to music and playing his guitar.

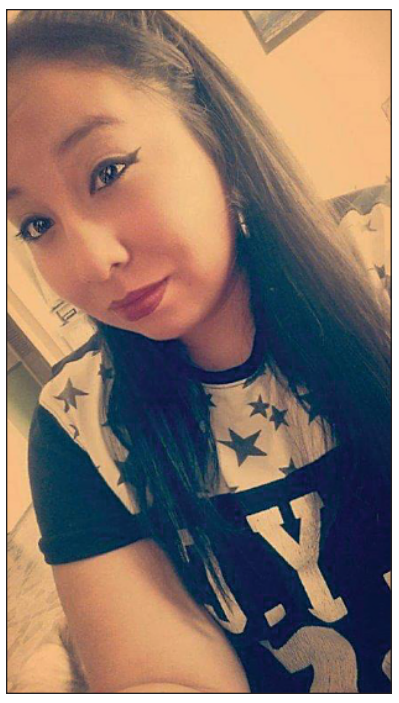
His plans are to pursue a career in law enforcement.

Renee Yvonne Johnson

Renee Yvonne Johnson is a 2017 graduate of Insight School of Oklahoma. She is the daughter of George Johnson Jr., Halina, Okla., Cynthia Perkins-Rowan and Jason Rowan of Ada, Okla., Wendy Harrison of Stonewall, Okla., and Jeff Freeman and Machelle Gililand of Okmulgee, Okla. She is the granddaughter of George and Yvonne Johnson Sr. of Ada, Okla., Jesus and Carolyn Ruth Mendoza, of Oklahoma City and James E. Perkins, of Connerville, Okla. She is the great-granddaughter of Virgil and Geraldine Greenwood.

Renee plans to attend Oklahoma State University, majoring in gas compression and pipeline integrity.

Currently Renee is receiving hands-on training in her field of study at OSU IT.



Kaitlyn RaeLeigh Tingle

Kaitlyn RaeLeigh Tingle is a 2017 graduate of Sulphur High School, Sulphur, Okla. She is the daughter of Gary and Michele Tingle. She is the granddaughter of Terry and Terry Woodell and Wanda Tingle, all of Sulphur and the late Charles Tingle. She is the great-granddaughter of Margaret Moore, Davis, Okla., and the great-great granddaughter of the late Tarie Imotichey.

Kaitlyn is a member of the National Honor Society, the Chickasaw Honor Club, she received the 2017 Rotary Student of the Year Scholarship and placed 2nd in Art Portfolio, Division 1, at the 2016 Murray State College Scholastic Competition.

Kaitlyn's activities include: jazz, tap and ballet, tap student instructor, SHS Honor Guard, Spanish Club, Family, Careers and Community of American (FCCLA), Murray County Youth Leadership and Chickasaw Pehilichi Ikbi (Creating Chickasaw Leaders) program. She attended Oklahoma Business Week – summer 2014 at East Central University and Summer Leadership Academy – summer 2016 at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. She was selected to attend the 2016 National Native Youth Summit in Washington DC – September 2016. She was named Rotary Student of the Month, November 2016, and Senior Model for Sr. Edge Photography – 2016-2017.

Kaitlyn has received numerous art awards, including Artists of the Arbuckle's Youth Art Show: 2013 1st place art award and 2015 Judges Award, Red Earth Youth Art Contest: 2nd Place Drawing – 2014, Chickasaw Nation Dynamic Women Butterfly Contest – 2014, Southeastern Art and Market Show Juror awards – Youth Contest: 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016; Art Attack High School Student Show – Judges Award 2015 and Judges Award – 2016, Sulphur Rotary "No More Sick Babies" Art Winner – 2016, Tobachi High School Art Competition, 1st Place Drawing – 2017; two published illustrations in a poem book and one photograph displayed at the Chickasaw Visitor Center in Sulphur.

Kaitlyn attends the First Free Will Baptist Church in Sulphur, where she also volunteers in the nursery.

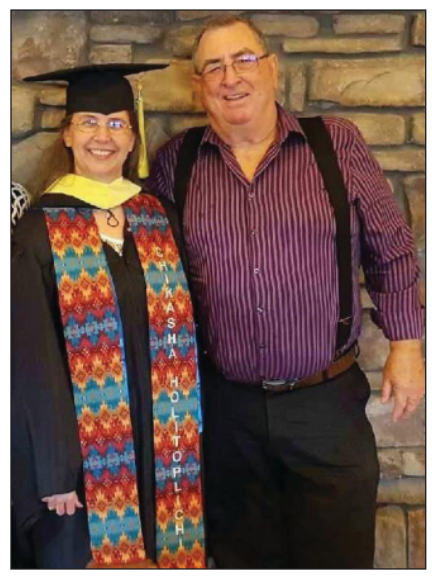
Kaitlyn plans to attend Oklahoma State University and major in anthropology/archeology with a minor in arts history.

Megan Cordell

Megan Cordell will graduate May 12 from the University of Arkansas. She is the daughter of Mr. Roy Cordell, of Fayetteville, Ark., and Mrs. Jamie Roe, of Duncan, Okla. She is the granddaughter of Jim and Jean Ann Dryden and Glen and Lynell Cordell, all of Duncan.

A 2013 graduate of Shiloh Christian School, she will receive a bachelor's degree in journalism with an emphasis on advertising and public relations. While at the University of Arkansas, she received the Chickasaw scholarship and the Arkansas Academic Challenge scholarship, and was named to the dean's list.

Ellen Brooker



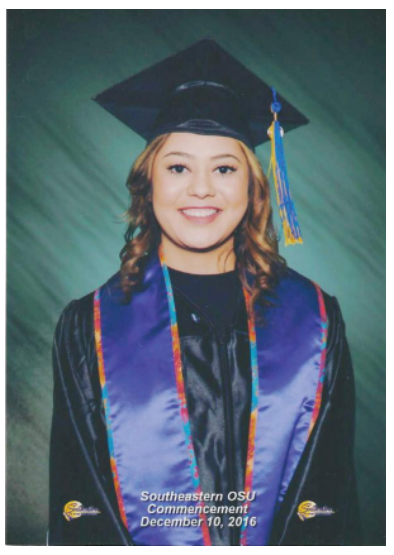
Ellen Brooker, Holisso Pisachi (one who teaches) is a 2017 graduate from Southeastern Oklahoma State University with a Master of Science in Native American Leadership. She earned her bachelor of arts from the University of Texas at San Antonio and her master of education from Houston Baptist University in Curriculum and Educational Technology.

Mrs. Brooker teaches at Southwest High School, San Antonio, retiring in June after 32 years teaching social studies. She was the Social Studies and World Language Department Chair for 19 years. She has presented at many local and state workshops and conferences on topics from using primary documents, informational trunks and integrating technology in the classroom to building webquests. During the summers, she attended workshops all over the country, from Chicago to Washington, DC and New York to North Carolina. She was a member of Texas Council for Social Studies, Texas Social Studies Supervisors Association, American Federation of Teachers and National Council for Social Studies.

She is secretary for the Chickasaw Community Council of South Texas and has been recognized in Who's Who among America's Teachers, National Honor Roll's Outstanding American Teachers, Biltmore Who's Who, Covington's Who's Who, Southwest High School Shining Star and Teacher of the Year and Southwest Independent School District Teacher Finalist in 2011. Ellen was named Chickasaw Nation Dynamic Woman of the Year for 2012.

Ellen and her husband, Daniel, have been married 32 years and have two sons and one granddaughter. Ellen plans to teach Native American Studies at the collegiate level after her retirement from public education. (Pictured: Ellen Brooker with her father, Tom Norton)

Savannah Nicole Burwell



Savannah Nicole Burwell is a 2016 graduate of Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant, Okla. She is the daughter of Jason Burwell and Leta Burwell. She is the granddaughter of Virginia "Gingy" Nail, of Ada and the late Bedford Burwell, Kelsie Alexander Morris and Colson Miller.

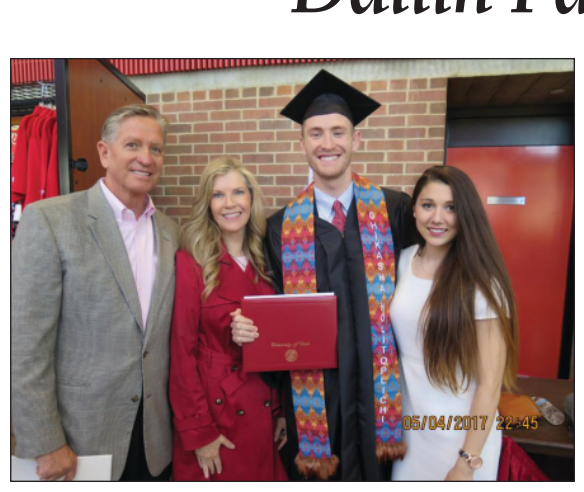
Savannah graduated with a bachelor of arts in communication and a minor in Native American Studies. She was listed on the President's Honor Roll the 2016 fall semester.

She was a recipient of the Chickasaw Nation Education Division grants and scholarships program and she appreciates the Chickasaw Nation for having provided the support for her education.

While pursuing her degree, Savannah was a teacher with the Chickasaw Nation School Age Program. She became a full-time employee of the Chickasaw Nation March 2017, as a promotions specialist in the Department of Communications and Community Outreach.

Savannah will pursue her master's degree in Native American Leadership from Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Dallin Parker

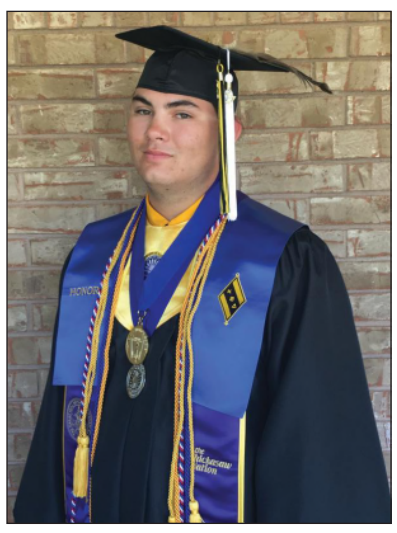


Dallin Parker pictured with his wife Mikayda and his parents Scott and Jann Parker

Dallin graduated from the University of Utah with a degree in Strategic Communications.

He proudly wore his Chickasaw Sash!

Barak Cole Estes Segura



Barak Cole Estes Segura is a 2017 graduate of Santa Fe South Pathways Middle College High School and Oklahoma City Community College. He is the son of Autumn Dawn Estes and the late Jonathan Lee Segura. He is the grandson of Sonia Brumfield and the late Ray Estes and Vicki Van Hook and Chris Segura. He is the great-grandson of Margaret and the late Carl Estes and Jeana McDonald Rush and the late Hurschel Brumfield and the great-great-grandson of original enrollee Charles William Dare.

He graduated fourth in his class with a 3.8 GPA. He was a member of the National Honor Society. He played baseball all through high school, starting first baseman for the Saints varsity baseball team.

While attending high school, Barak Cole was concurrently enrolled at Oklahoma City Community College where he graduated with an associate of science degree in Diversified Studies with Civic Honors. As a college student, he was a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and Kappa Beta Delta Business Honor Society.

Barak Cole has been very active in Boy Scouts of America. He started as a Cub Scout, earning his Bobcat, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, Arrow of Light and several belt loops, pins and arrow points. He then crossed over to Boy Scouts, where he held numerous troop leadership positions. He participated in many community service projects and served as Den Chief for Pack 20 while he worked his way through the ranks. His hard work and dedication earned him the rank of Eagle Scout with Troop 17, of Moore, Okla.

His plans are to attend Wichita State University to pursue a degree in sports management.

Sunni Rae Daniel

Sunni Rae Daniel graduated May 5 from Southwestern Oklahoma State University. She earned a Doctor of Pharmacy degree. She is the daughter of Mike and Shelly Daniel. She is the granddaughter of Lavon Daniel , the late Bob Daniel and Phillip and Gaylene Miller, all of Atoka.

Sunni completed her degree with a 3.8 grade point average.

Chris Anoatubby

Chris Anoatubby is a proud 2017 graduate of Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Durant, Oklahoma. Chris graduated with a master's degree in business administration (MBA) from the John Massey School of Business on May 6. While at Southeastern, he maintained a 4.0 GPA and accepted membership into Beta Gamma Sigma, an international honor society for business students and one of the highest honors for an MBA student at Southeastern.

Chris is currently the Under Secretary of Tribal and Commercial Health at the Chickasaw Nation Department of Commerce.

He is pictured with his wife, Becky, and three children, Brendan, Eryn, and Sydney. Chris is the eldest son of Governor Bill and Janice Anoatubby, of Ada, Oklahoma.

Calvin Paul Harjo

Calvin Paul Harjo is a 2017 graduate of East Central University, Ada, Okla. He is the son of Steve and Debra Harjo, of Seminole, Okla. He is the grandson of Juanita Wise, of Seminole, and the late Isaac Harjo, Alex Emarthle and Lois Janett (Foraker) Emarthle. He is the great-grandson of original enrollee Ada Lacher.

Calvin graduated with honors, earning a bachelor of social work with a minor in Native American Studies. He has participated in the Chickasaw Nation School to Work program three years, which has given him great work experience and the opportunity to achieve his dream of becoming a social worker.

His plans are to continue his education and pursue a master's degree in social work.

His family is so proud of his accomplishments and future goals. He is a strong, dedicated, resilient, hardworking and motivated person who enjoys helping others.

Jacob Dean Wilcox

Jacob Dean Wilcox is a 2011 graduate of Stanwood High School, Stanwood, Wash., and a 2015 graduate of Western Washington College in Bellingham, Wash., with a major in physics and a minor in mathematics. He is the son of Kim Anderson and Jeff Wilcox. He is the grandson of Bill and Hazel Anderson and Kerry and Sally Kemp Wilcox. His great-great-grandparents were original enrollees, Joe Kemp and Sallie Duckworth Turner.

Jacob completed his graduate internship program at the University of Oregon in 2016, earning his master's degree in applied physics. He now works building and testing scientific instrumentation at a firm in Bellevue, Washington.

Jacob would like to extend his thanks to the Chickasaw Nation for their financial support as he furthered his education.

Chickasaw student thankful for Pathways program

Chickasaw citizen Erin Reynen, left, with fellow Pathways participant, Monica Fanning, at her graduation from the Paul Mitchell School.

With the help of her local Chickasaw Nation area office, Chickasaw citizen Erin Skye Reynen connected with the Pathways to Success program, allowing her to complete the cosmetology program at the Paul Mitchell School in Ardmore.

The 23-year-old knew she wanted a positive and rewarding education, but was unsure where and how to begin. She decided to consult with her mother who recommended the Pathways to Success Program.

Thanks to guiding hands at the Pauls Valley Area Office, she was able to attend the Paul Mitchell School with tuition assistance.

"They gave me a chance and an opportunity," Ms. Reynen said.

Excited about beginning her career, Ms. Reynen spent two months researching future job opportunities.

After graduating last August, Ms. Reynen secured employment at the Tangerine Salon in Highland, Texas.

The Pathways to Success program provides case management, counseling and life skills training to increase Native Americans' ability to reach their potential while decreasing dependence on financial assistance.

Required applications are available at any area office. Native Americans residing within the Chickasaw Nation boundaries are eligible to apply.

Emily Ramsey

Emily Ramsey is a 2017 graduate of Baylor University. She is the daughter of Jeff Ramsey, of Trophy Club, Texas, and Robin Reynolds, of North Richland Hills, Texas. She is the granddaughter of Porter and Jane Ramsey and Recilla Taylor and Stanley Reynolds.

Emily earned a bachelor of business administration and master of accountancy in four years at Baylor. She will be employed by Ernst & Young Accounting Firm in Houston as a fraud examiner. Emily tutored students in various courses while attending Baylor.

Emily is very thankful for the incredible various scholarship programs provided by the Chickasaw Nation, which was instrumental in her ability to meet all her financial responsibilities to Baylor while being a student. Emily proudly wore her Chickasaw Nation stole at her graduation.

Jessica K. Johnson

Jessica K. Johnson is a 2017 graduate of Belmont University, Nashville, Tenn. She received her bachelor of arts degree in Entertainment Industry Studies with a minor in Journalism. She is the daughter of Dean and Judy Johnson and granddaughter of James Harrison White.

Born and raised in Southern California, Jessica always had a desire to pursue music and to learn more about the entertainment industry. She learned about Belmont from a family friend, visited her junior year of high school and fell in love with Belmont's community and spirit. With her father on disability and her mother working hard to take care of her parents and Jessica's little brother, Nolan Johnson, paying for school seemed almost impossible.

Without the help and support of the Chickasaw Nation Higher Education Department and scholarship program, Jessica would not have been able to attend and graduate from her dream school. Jessica was able to finish these last four years strong, join the sorority Alpha Sigma Tau, intern with great companies in the entertainment industry and create meaningful and impactful relationships in the community.

She is entering postgraduate life in hopes of working in digital marketing and social media in the entertainment industry, music supervision in films and TV, or even working on music of her own.

She is forever thankful and grateful for her family, friends and the unbelievable support of the Chickasaw Nation.

Higher Education Grants and Scholarships for Summer 2017

Chickasaw students wishing to receive higher education grants and scholarships for the 2017 summer term can apply through June 15.

Students participating in an undergraduate, graduate or doctoral program from an accredited college are eligible to receive assistance through a number of grants and scholarship programs provided through the Chickasaw Nation.

Grants and scholarships assist part-time and full-time students with tuition, books and fees.

Applicants must complete a Programs, Grants and Scholarship Application, provide an official high school or college transcript and a schedule of classes.

Applications are available at www.chickasaw.net/highered.

Application deadline is June 15.

For more information, contact education services at (580) 421-7711.

Chikasha Holitoplichi Summer Semester

The Chikasha Holitoplichi (Honors Program) rewards students striving to complete continuing education goals and academic success. The deadline for the summer term is June 15.

This program is available for Chickasaw college students beginning their sophomore year through professional school.

The program includes classification change incentives, degree completion incentives and the opportunity to receive graduation stoles.

For more information, visit www.chickasaw.net or call (580) 421-7711.

Youth Clothing Grant accepting applications June 1

The Chickasaw Nation Youth Clothing Grant provides eligible Chickasaw students with a $200 grant once per school year to purchase school clothes.

Chickasaw citizens, ages three through high school seniors, can apply online at www.chickasaw.net/youthclothinggrant.

Students must provide most recent report card or progress report (grades K-12 only).

For more information, contact youth services at (580) 272-5585 or clothinggrantprogram@chickasaw.net.

Meinders School of Business graduate

Chickasaw citizen James Kaleb Ogle recently became the first student to complete the Meinders School of Business Native American Scholar Academy at Oklahoma City University. Mr. Ogle won a competitive four-year scholarship to the academy. He received a bachelor's degree in business administration marketing.

Storytelling a key part of Chickasaw history

The Chickasaw Nation continues to preserve the history of storytelling by offering a variety of programs and services including story concerts, digital storytelling and the annual "Spooky Tales" event.

Storytelling is the oldest form of public speaking and is said to be the first form of art. Dating back to ancient man, traditions have been passed down through storytelling. Storytelling is an important part of preserving Chickasaw history and culture, and serves as a reminder to listen to the stories of our elders.

Chickasaw Nation storytelling program coordinator, Stephanie Scott, believes storytelling is vital to keeping Chickasaw history and traditions alive.

"This is an important part of our culture," Ms. Scott said. "These stories are not written in books and no one has any idea they happened. Some elders have passed on with untold stories. It's just a closed door. We'll never hear them."

The Department of Culture and Humanities has recently introduced digital storytelling classes. Digital storytelling is the modern expression of traditional oral storytelling.

Lorie Carmichael, director of creative arts, says "Digital storytelling means that stories are being told and recorded in a different format."

"In essence, changing the format of telling stories gives new life to the story, so that the story may continue to live and be passed on," she said. "No matter how the story is told, this practice is still used to share, or pass down knowledge, wisdom, values, lessons and how things in the world came to be."

This past spring, Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities hosted a Chickasaw youth storytelling workshop. Students learned the necessary tools for storytelling and created a short digital story.

Paige and Evelyn Kreis participated in this workshop. Paige focused on a story that was set during Halloween and involved vampires. Evelyn's story is a Chickasaw story where the duck sings for her children.

The sisters were able to learn how to use a basic audio system to record.

Digital storytelling is a creative way to get youth involved in carrying on the rich history of the Chickasaw Nation.

The stories are personal family stories that will touch your heart and each one is unique by the way they are told.

"We need to carry on the tradition of storytelling," Ms. Scott said. "You'd be surprised how many families have their own stories."

For more information about storytelling, visit www.chickasaw.net/storytellers.

CONTRIBUTED BY Savannah Roman Burwell, Public Affairs.

Anastasia Grace Anderson and Rhylind Cheney Straub after accepting their awards for the Anoli writing contest, April 29, at McSwain Theatre in Ada, Okla..

Anoli' Creative Writing contest winners announced

Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities recently announced the winners for the 2017 Anoli' Creative Writing Contest. The awards ceremony took place during the Spring Music Concert at the McSwain Theatre in Ada, Okla.

Writers were be divided three age groups: grades six-eight, nine-12 and young adults through age 24. There were three categories: poetry, essay and short story.

Division 1
(Sixth– eighth grade)
Poetry
First Place – Ronald Lee Davidson III, Untitled
Essay
First Place – Anastasia Grace Anderson, Unyielding
Short Story
First Place – Rhylind Cheney Straub, Untitled

Division 2
(Ninth – 12th Grade)
Poetry
First Place - Sophia Starnes, Two Sides of the Same Coin
Second Place – Zebulon Hawkins, More than Blood
Third Place - Cassidy Raquelle Porter, Body Language

Division 3
(Young adult through age 24)
Poetry
First Place – Elissa Thompson, What I Know
Second Place – Ashley Vance, Defiance
Third Place – Fiona Bruner, Indigenous

To learn more about the Anoli' Creative Writing Contest, call (580) 272-5520 or email rachel.stick@chickasaw.net.

CONTRIBUTED BY Kristen Gill, Public Affairs.

Community-Wide Baby Shower provides lots of information, resources to new moms

Expectant mothers register for door prizes at the Community-Wide Baby Shower, Friday, April 7, at the Chickasaw Community Center in Ada.

ADA, Okla. – More than 200 mothers, soon-to-be mothers and families attended a community-wide baby shower at the Chickasaw Community Center, Friday, April 6. The event included resources from breastfeeding to post-partum depression, as well as presentations from medical staffs from the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center and Mercy Hospital.

"The baby shower is an opportunity for mothers to get the education, and sometimes, before pregnancy, so they can have information for what's going to happen," Chickasaw Nation Medical Center OB Manager and co-chair of the event Carey Terrell said. "The event has resources and information for pre-natal, birth, after-birth and breastfeeding. We hope it will be enough information to get the mothers a good start."

Collaborating with Mercy Hospital, the Chickasaw Nation continues partnerships that enrich the community and citizens. In August 2016, Chickasaw citizen and recent mother Amanda Schultz delivered her daughter at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center. Mrs. Schultz did not know what to expect, but was interested in learning more about being a better mother.

"It's nice for Mercy Hospital to co-host the event and see everyone in the community come together supporting mothers and families in Ada," Mrs. Schultz said. "As a new mother, it is a lot harder than I expected, but today is a good event for me to learn more."

For more information about the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center OB and Women's Care, contact Carey Terrell at (580) 421-1112.

CONTRIBUTED BY Chris Roman Nose, Public Affairs.

Early Childhood Centers (Head Start) recognize parents

SULPHUR, Okla. - Parents of children attending Chickasaw Nation Early Childhood Centers (Head Start) were recognized at a May 12 banquet at The Artesian Hotel and Spa in Sulphur.

Parents from each of the four centers were honored for their volunteer hours.

"Parents are the first teachers of children, so without you, we cannot do our job, so thank you," Robert Pickens, Chickasaw Nation Early Childhood Director, said.

The Ada center added two classrooms this year, increasing enrollment from 80 to 120 students.

Ada
Top center volunteer award: Titi Mater

Top classroom volunteers: Jennifer Hass, Krystal Bohanon, Jaron Sellers, Britany Whartenby and Latisha King

Foster Grandparent volunteer: Lonnie Buris

Ardmore
Top center volunteer award: Taylor Owen

Top classroom volunteers: Ezmeralda Caldera, Haley Arledge, Jamie Stephenson, Saysamone Dowdy, Liliana Nieto, Lisa Douglas, Christine Lewis and Brittany Lucas

Foster Grandparent volunteers: Shirley Brown, Ernestine Caudle, Beryl Johnson, Tammie Gay and Corine Shannon

Chickasaw citizen Dustin Johnson was recognized for serving 231 volunteer hours at the Tishomingo Early Childhood Center (Head Start). He was named parent volunteer of the year, serving the most volunteer hours.

Sulphur
Top center volunteer award: Kristy Null

Top classroom volunteers: Elizabeth Thompson, Jessica Williams and Mikaela Plumber

Tishomingo
Top center volunteer award: Dustin Johnson

Top classroom volunteers: Misty Johnson, Jessica Rushing, Kayla Garrett and Lindsey Fugate

Foster Grandparent volunteer: Sharon Frazier

The Tishomingo center moved to a new facility this year and expanded to four classrooms.

CONTRIBUTED BY Jennifer Jones, Public Affairs.

Chickasaw Citizen Groups - Chickasaw Community Councils

Connerville Chickasaw Community Council
Tony Poe: (580) 421-4994
Every other month, 3rd Monday, 6:30 p.m.

Purcell Chickasaw Community Council
Carolee Maxwell: (405) 527-7676
4th Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

OKC Metro Chickasaw Community Council
Linda Clinton: (405) 282-6069
1st Tuesday. Potluck at 6 p.m.; meeting at 6:30 p.m.

North Texas Chickasaw Community Council
John Atkins: (972) 271-0692 or Sandra Williams: (817) 688-6566
3rd Saturday at 1:30 p.m.

Central Texas Chickasaw Community Council
Jay Hurst: (512) 784-5281
2nd Sunday at 2 p.m.

South Texas Chickasaw Community Council
Nancy McLarry: (830) 537-4576
2nd Sunday at 2 p.m.

Ada Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Monthly, 6:30 p.m.

Alaska Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Meets three times a year in Anchorage

Ardmore Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Every other month, Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

Arizona Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly meetings in Phoenix/Temple area

Bryan County Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly meetings in Durant

Colorado Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, second Saturday, 11:30 a.m.

Duncan Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Every other month, Saturday, 11:30 a.m.

East Texas Chickasaw Texas Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Sunday, 2 p.m.

Florida Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly meetings in Orlando

Georgia Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly meetings in Atlanta

Houston Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly meetings

Louisiana Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Twice per year, Saturday, 1:30 p.m.

Nation Capitol Region Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Washington D.C.

Nevada Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Sundays at 1 p.m. in Henderson

New England Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Meetings twice per year in Windsor, Connecticut

New Mexico Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly meetings, Saturdays in Albuquerque

Northern California Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly meetings in Sacramento

Northern Pontotoc Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Every other month, 2nd Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

Ozark Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Meetings are twice per year in Fayetteville, Arkansas

Pacific NW Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Saturdays at 1:30 p.m.

San Diego Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Sundays at 1:30 p.m.

Southern California Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly meetings in Fontana

St. Louis Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Twice per year, Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.

Texoma Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

Tishomingo Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Monthly, Monday, 6:30 p.m.

Tri-State Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Meetings twice per year in Newark, New Jersey

Tulsa Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly meetings

Wichita Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly, Third Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

For more information about each group's meeting times, contact Chickasaw Nation Community Outreach at (580) 332-1165.

APRIL 2017 LEGISLATIVE MINUTES

CHICKASAW NATION TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION
Legislature Building
Ada, Oklahoma
April 21, 2017

AGENDA ITEM #1 CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairperson David Woerz called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2 ROLL CALL

Members present: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Lisa J. Billy, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Toby Perkins, Steve Woods, David Woerz

Member absent: Scott Wood

Staff present: Robert Cheadle, Legislative Counsel, Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary, Harold Stick, Sergeant-At-Arms

Guests present: Michael L. Wingo, Rebecca Chandler, Rita Loder, Andrea Walton, Roxanna Newsom, Marty Wafford, Dana Lance

AGENDA ITEM #3 INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Ms. Lisa J. Billy.

AGENDA ITEM #4 READING OF MINUTES - March 17, 2017

A motion was made by Ms. Barker and seconded by Ms. Case to approve the minutes of March 17, 2017.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Lisa J. Billy, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Toby Perkins, Steve Woods, David Woerz

10 yes votes

Member abstaining: Tim Colbert

1 abstention

The motion to approve the minutes of March 17, 2017 carried.

AGENDA ITEM #5: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

AGENDA ITEM #6: REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

(A) **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT** by Committee Chair Connie Barker

General Resolution Number 34-016, Resolution Declaring a Vacancy on the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature and Stating the Preference of Method of Filling such Vacancy

This resolution declares that a vacancy exists in Seat 4 of the Pontotoc District. It further states the unanimous decision of the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature that it would be best to fill the vacancy through the annual Chickasaw general election process. As a result, the seat shall remain open until the winning candidate is sworn in along with the other winning candidates. Authority for this decision is found in Title 16, Paragraph 16-101.9B1 of the Chickasaw Code.

A motion was made by Mr. Colbert and seconded by Mr. Perkins to approve GR 34-016.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Lisa J. Billy, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Toby Perkins, Steve Woods, David Woerz

11 yes votes

The motion to approve GR34-016 carried unanimously.

Ms. Barker concluded her report.

(B) HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Scott Wood

Ms. Elliott served as Human Resources Committee Chair Pro Tempore during the meeting.

General Resolution Number 34-017, Assurances for the Indian Community Development Block Grant Program U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Southern Plains Office of Native American Programs

This resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation's application for an Indian Community Development Block Grant for a community facility funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, for the establishment of a Chickasaw Nation Nutrition Center, located in Tishomingo, Johnston County, Oklahoma.

A motion was made by Mrs. Alexander and seconded by Ms. Barker to approve GR 34-017.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Lisa J. Billy, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Toby Perkins, Steve Woods, David Woerz

11 yes votes

The motion to approve GR34-017 carried unanimously.

General Resolution Number 34-018, Application for Federal Grant under the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Justice Services, Indian Highway Safety Program, Child Passenger Safety Seat Program Grant

This resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation's application for a Child Passenger Safety Seat Program Grant in the amount of $15,000 by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs for the establishment of a high-quality child passenger safety seat program to be located within the Chickasaw Nation.

The Chickasaw Nation Department of Education is working to develop a high-quality evidence-based child passenger safety seat program. The grant proposal is to seek $15,000 to design a high-quality program to protect Chickasaw children through a coordinated, high-quality, child passenger safety program, and to reduce the high number of traffic crashes and their resulting fatalities, injuries and property damage within Chickasaw communities. Indirect cost rate reimbursement does not apply to this grant application.

A motion was made by Mr. Perkins and seconded by Ms. Briggs to approve GR 34-018.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Lisa J. Billy, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Toby Perkins, Steve Woods, David Woerz

11 yes votes

The motion to approve GR34-018 carried unanimously.

Ms. Elliott concluded her report.

AGENDA ITEM #7 NEW BUSINESS (Comments from Citizens)

There was no new business to discuss or comments from citizens.

AGENDA ITEM #8 ADJOURNMENT

The Legislative Session adjourned at 9:14 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Toby Perkins, Secretary
Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature

Prepared by:
Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary
Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature

MAY 2017 RESOLUTIONS

General Resolution Number 34-019

Authorization for Transfer and Acceptance of Real Property in Johnston County

Explanation: This resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation's acceptance of a transfer of real property from Sovereign Properties Holdco LLC, Located in Tishomingo, Johnston County, Oklahoma, described as The Southerly 50 feet of Lot 3, Block 77 in the Town of Tishomingo, OK, together with all improvements thereon, if any, in their present condition, ordinary wear and tear excepted. The Governor is authorized to request the Bureau of Indian Affairs to place the property U.S.A. in Trust for the Chickasaw Nation after acquisition, if such action is advantageous.

Property Location: Wall Property on Fisher Street in Tishomingo, Oklahoma

Use: Self Determination

Presented By: Land Development Committee

Yes votes: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Lisa J. Billy, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Toby Perkins, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, David Woerz

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee of the Whole Meeting
May 15, 2017

Present: Beth Alexander, Lisa J. Billy, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Toby Perkins, Steve Woods, David Woerz

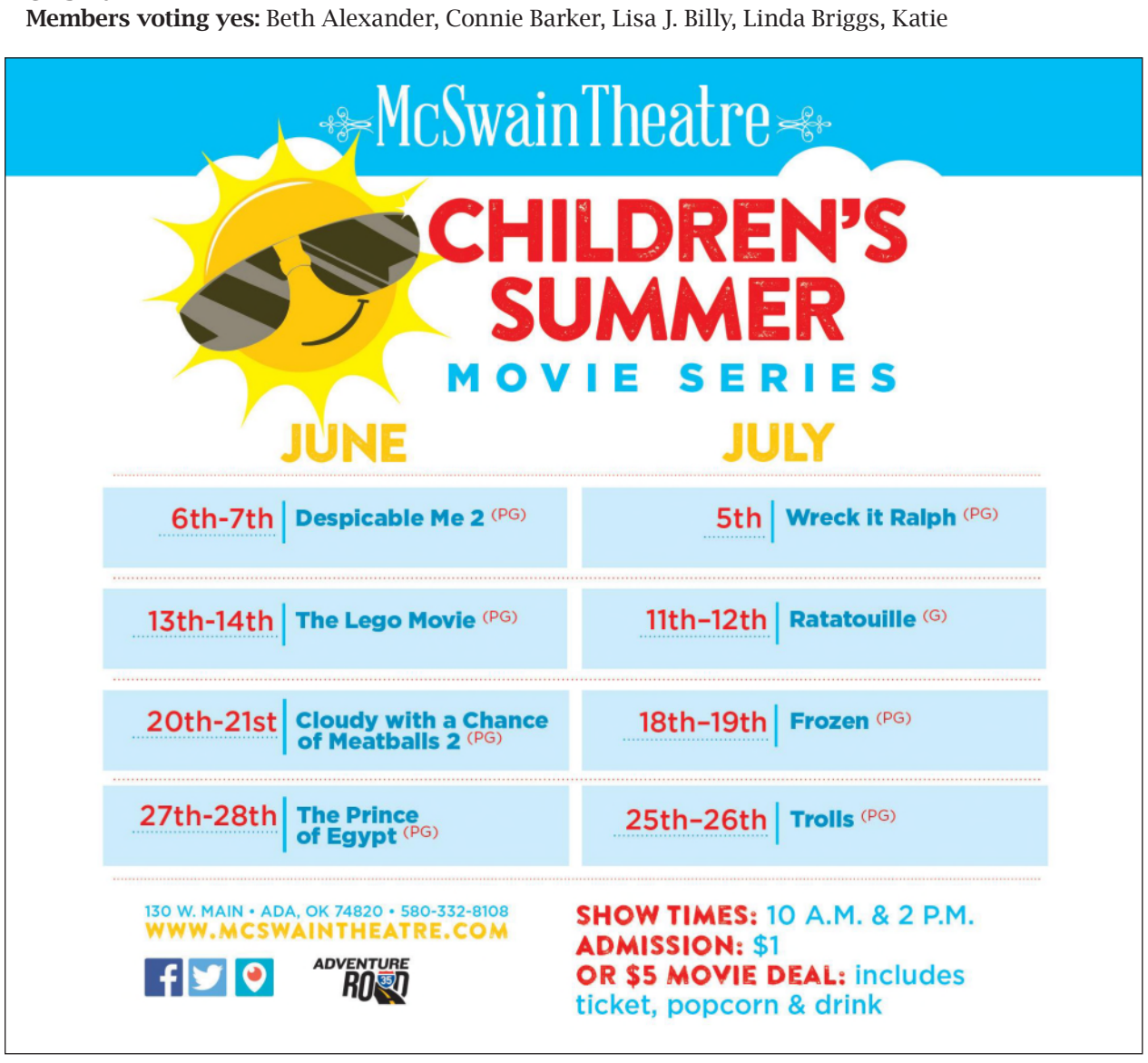
Absent: Connie Barker, Scott Wood

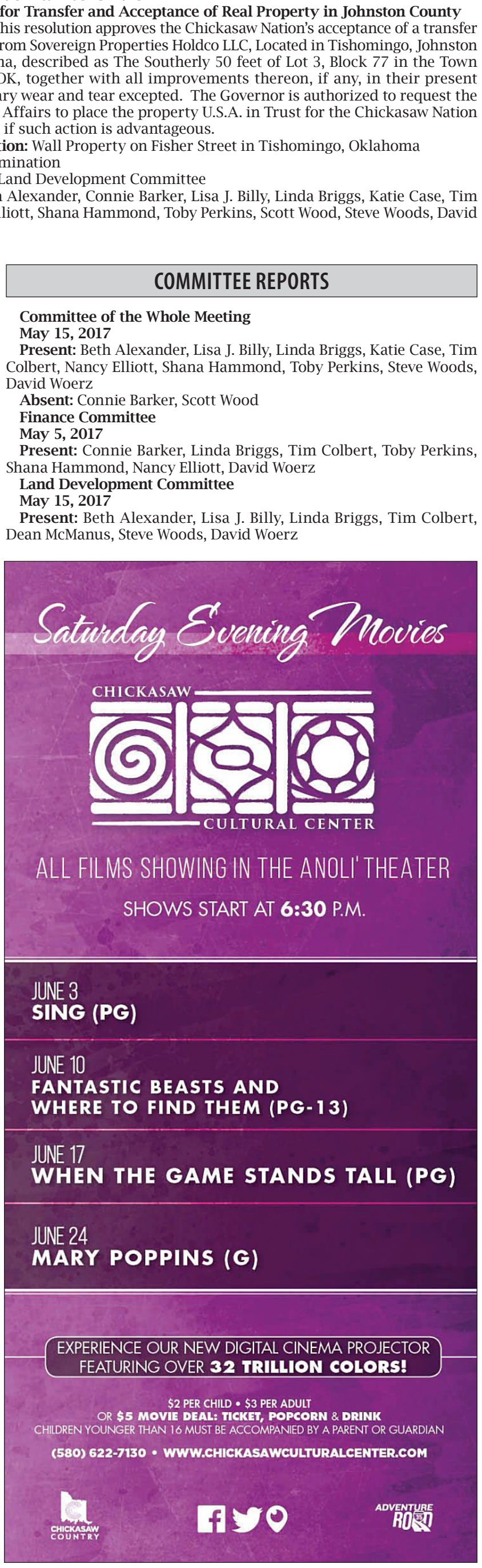
Finance Committee
May 5, 2017

Present: Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert, Toby Perkins, Shana Hammond, Nancy Elliott, David Woerz

Land Development Committee
May 15, 2017

Present: Beth Alexander, Lisa J. Billy, Linda Briggs, Tim Colbert, Dean McManus, Steve Woods, David Woerz





2017 Early Childhood Center (Head Start) Graduations

Ada Early Childhood Center (Head Start)

Michael Scott

Ada Early Childhood Center (Head Start) 2017 Graduates
Students in Ada celebrated the completion of their first educational accomplishment at the Chickasaw Nation Community Center, Monday, May 15. Fifty students completed the school readiness program.

Front row from left: Joshua Hall, Matthew Parker, Hadley Frost, LeRoy Malone, Paxton Hickson, Thomas Murby, Glen James, Cianna Colungo, Keelen Keck, Aaron Bliss, Miley Leon, Gracie West and Tylar Campbell.

Second row from left: Executive Officer of Education Danny Wells, Governor Bill Anoatubby, Jaxon Starns, Maverick Frazier, Tressie Hamilton, Braylee Lewis, Olivia Davis, Carter Lowry, Sari Walker, Annetra Murphy, Kaden Wright, Jaelynn Scheets, Brantley Scheets, Adelynn Lofton, Little Miss Chickasaw Lakala Orphan and Chickasaw Junior Princess Keilyn "Ke-ke" Factor.

Third row from left: Secretary of Community Services Wayne Scribner, Braelyn Barden, Zayne Keck, Nannola Wallace, Sethrael Cornelson, Aiyana Ramirez, Jordyn Tilley, Rhyan Stovall, Gage Grounds, Anoli Wilson, Aiyanna Miller, Chickasaw Princess Julie Underwood, and Director of Early Childhood, Robert Pickens.

Back row from left: Ezekiel McFerran, Kynleigh Bohanon, Brody Easley, Kaiden Hatton, Sydnee Henry, Samantha Hulbutta, Aiston Allen, Kerry Logan, Tammy Gutierrez, Hadlee Scribner.

Ardmore Head Start

Michael Scott

Students in Ardmore celebrated the completion of their first educational accomplishment at the Chickasaw Nation Community Center, Wednesday, May 17. Fifty-two students completed the school readiness program.

Front row from left: Marko Coronado, Josalyn Horton, Ashtin Dixon, AnnaBella Lee, Ziva Lewis, Brandon Sampson, Zhadyn Anderson, Talyn Tom, Baylor Richards, Johnny Blalock, Mikiyah Christie, Yoselin Moreno, Brentli Arnold and Amya James.

Second row from left: Kaidyn Whitaker, Lani Owen, Odalys Hernandez, Jordan Tudor, Isabella Rodriguez, Khalaya Wright, Samuel Gonzalez, Ja'Marya'Gilbert, Rikki Sloan, Mallory Lampkin, Jazzlyn Sykes and Maria Molina.

Third row from left: Mae'ven Dowdy, Xavier Banks, Audrey Rhynes, Zuri Williamson, Maria Houston, Kyran Raymond, Rylan Sparks, Luis Alvarez, Dominic Moreno and Grasyn Watkins.

Top row from left: Carveon Knight, Braxxton Minyen, E'zion Williams-Murph, Meeko Harjochee, Kayson Bruce, Leelyn Farve, Rhylee Johnson, Emberlie Wells, Logan Purcell, Jesse Rodriguez, Marcus Hernandez, Cherish Dinwiddie and Korbin Blanton.

Tribal officials, leadership and staff:
Back row on left: from left, Kim Gill, Paula Cooper, Robert Pickens, Gregory Bowens

Second row: Lauri Stevenson, Paula Russell, Executive Officer of Education Danny Wells, Secretary of Community Services Wayne Scribner

Third row: Gayle Baker, Alisha Lopez, Governor Bill Anoatubby
Front row from left(sitting): Jessica White, Shirley Brown, Kendra Lanier

Rigth side back row: from left, Chickasaw Princess Julie Underwood, Ashli Eidson, Melissa West, Jennifer McGee

ROW 2 – Little Miss Chickasaw LaKala Orphan, Chickasaw Junior Princess Keilyn "Ke-ke" Factor Beth Harris, Lt. Governor Jefferson Keel, Pam Freeman

Front row from left (sitting): Hillary Williford, Christina Hodges, Michelle Freeman, Kelli Dighton.

Sulphur Head Start

Sulphur Early Childhood (Head Start) Graduation
Students celebrated completion of the Chickasaw Nation Early Childhood (Head Start) program in Sulphur, Oklahoma, Friday, May 19. Fifteen students graduated from the school readiness program.

Front row from left: Chickasaw Nation Legislator Steven Woods, Gov. Bill Anoatubby, Bentley Thompson, Jenny Ruiz, Pepyr Null, Delilah Hibbs, Eli Wright, Joshua Reynolds, Lt. Gov. Keel and Justice Cheri Bellefeuille-Gordon.

Second row from left: Secretary of Community Services Wayne Scribner, Gavin Miller, Kaybree Little, Kallel Nolan, Konrad Richards and Greysen Mills

Third row from left: Nathan Drake, Kaisen McDonald, Zeth Beaney and Ryan Mendoza, Executive Officer of Education Danny Wells and Undersecretary of Community Services Tom John

Back row from left: Frances Barrett, Allison Martin, Cynde Lewis, Junior Chickasaw Princess Keilyn "Ke-ke" Factor, Cara Johnson, Little Miss Chickasaw LaKala Orphan, Jonie Wallace, Chickasaw Princess Julie Underwood, Carolina Ugalde and Rhonda Priddy.

Tishomingo Head Start

Mike McKee

Students in Tishomingo celebrated the completion of their first educational accomplishment at the Chickasaw Nation Community Center, Wednesday, May 17. Student's aspirations after graduation from the early childhood program (Head Start) ranged from police officers to Sonic carhops.

Front row from left: Linda Lewis, Janet Sparkman, Paysen Harris, Ara Ross, Kaden Wisinger, Addie Ballard, Aubrey Fugate, Blakeleigh Yochum, Wyatt Sneed, John Pryor, Andon Schmucker, Lydia Goodin, Izabell Mills Landri Daniels, Dominque Phillips, Michaela Grant and April Updegraff.

Middle row from left: Jolene Boston, Espyn Rojas, Elizabeth Barnes, Kyah Ratliff, Stevie Petersen, Case Bussey, Jaxxon Kite, Brooklyn Bird, Casen Grinstead, Addison Rhodes, Daniel Nichols and Lainey Smith-Price.

Back row from left: Amara Harris, Deloris Campbell, Sherie Miller, Jodi Holt, Governor Bill Anoatubby, Brandy Schultz, Chickasaw Junior Princess Keilyn "Ke-Ke" Factor, Ladonna Cook, Chickasaw Princess Julie Underwood, Little Miss Chickasaw LaKala Orphan, Wayne Scribner, Steven Wood, Scott Wood, Danny Wells, Robert Pickens, Lt. Governor Jefferson Keel, Courtney Householder and Tashina Hamilton.

Teri Elaine Alexander

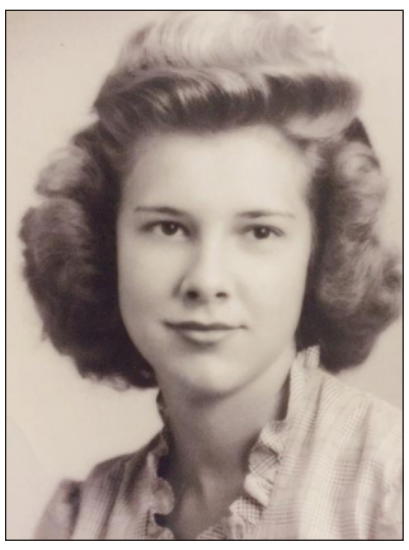
Funeral services for Ms. Teri Elaine Alexander, 47, of Tishomingo, Okla. were held April 20, 2017, at the Freedom Fellowship Church in Fillmore, Okla., with Brother Randy Wade officiating. Interment was in the Pontotoc Cemetery. Ms. Alexander passed away, April 14, 2017, as the result of an automobile accident.

Teri was born April 9, 1970, in Talihina, Okla., to Larry Alexander and Hazel (Tyson) Alexander. She grew up in the Ardmore area and graduated from Ardmore High School in 1989. Afterward, Teri attended DeVry University in Dallas, Texas, where she studied business management. Most recently, she had worked as a warehouseman at the Dollar Tree Distribution Center in Marietta, Okla. Teri was one of the original members of the latest edition of the Chickasaw Nation Stomp Dance Troupe. She was preceded in death by her father.

Teri is survived by her son, Jake Soap, of Ada, Okla.; two daughters, Sigourney Meely of Durant, Okla., and Chelsea Gonzales, of Sherman, Texas; her mother, Hazel James and husband Ronnie of Morrison, Okla.; three sisters, Melanie Alexander of Sherman, Autumn James of Morrison, Okla., and Rainey Alexander of Ada; four brothers, Isaiah James, of Morrison, Watt Alexander, of Ada, Larry Gene Alexander, of N.H. and Skylar Alexander of Ada; five grandchildren; and other relatives and friends.

Casket bearers for the service were Tommy Lewis, Greg Walker, R. T. Knight, Brandon James, Jonas Camp, Eric Battiest, Danny Ramirez and Randy Tyson. Honorary bearer was Devin Soap.

Marjorie Dean (Molly) Appelman



Marjorie Dean Appelman, 87, died April 17, 2017. Funeral services were April 20, 2017, at the Plainview Church of Christ, Catoosa, Okla. Graveside services were April 21, 2017, at Willis Cemetery, Willis, Okla.

She was born July 5, 1929, at Willis Scott and Gladys Massey Bridges. She attended school in Willis and Kingston, Okla., and Fort Worth and Snyder, Texas. She graduated from Snyder High School in 1946. Wanting to continue her education, she enrolled at Murray State College in Tishomingo, Okla. It was there that she met Van Buren Appelman. She made such an impression on him that he eventually painted "Miss Molly" on the side of his '35 Ford. They were married July 3, 1948, in Snyder. Shortly after their marriage the newly wed couple moved to Norman where Van attended the University of Oklahoma and Molly worked in the business department. A short time later Van began working for Texaco. Van and Molly transferred numerous times before settling in Catoosa in 1967.

In her spare time Molly enjoyed many hobbies; sewing, gardening and baking were just a few of her favorites. She also enjoyed playing games such as bridge and dominoes. Being the daughter of an original Dawes Rolls enrollee, she was proud of her Chickasaw heritage and enjoyed the many functions and festivals hosted by the Nation, but her favorite was traveling with the Madill Seniors. She was a member of the Catoosa Historical Society and the Plainview Church of Christ.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and two brothers.

She is survived by her husband Van, of the home; a son, Ron Appelman and wife Shelly; three grandsons, four great-grandchildren and many extended family members.

Lt. Col. Harry Edward Glasgow, Sr.

Lt. Colonel Harry Edward Glasgow, Sr. was born April 4, 1923, in Healdton, Okla. He was the son of Samuel and Zona (Brown) Glasgow. He graduated from Central High School, Oklahoma City. He married Ida Faye Rowlan Sept. 1, 1961. The family, along with many friends, has lost a wonderful human being. His passions were being a pilot and flying airplanes, outdoor activities from fishing (and most of the time he came back with a tub full of fish), water skiing, teaching water skiing, boating, camping, golfing, watching sports of all kinds on TV, contracting, woodworking, Classic Big Bands, dancing, camping, traveling, long-range shooting, football, track and field sports and yard work.

Harry began his long career with the Army Air Corps, joined the Air Guard, Air National Guard Reserve, and became an engineer. At the age of 12 he was asked if he could tie down a Curtiss JN-4 biplane (known as the Jenny plane) for the pilot and he would give him a ride. He wrangled his father's new rope, got his first ride and was hooked for life. From that point on he set his goal. His burning desire was to fly airplanes. He decided to take all the higher math to help him obtain his goal. He became a pilot and started flying at age 20 and served for 40 years, 30 of them as a pilot. When someone would ask him what planes he had flown, he would say, "Okay, what didn't I fly?" He loved to tell his stories especially to children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, veterans and basically anyone who wanted to listen. They all dearly loved to hear them. He was honored to fly prisoners of war back home. He was on the National Rifle Team and participated in the 1,000-yard open site team. He held the state record for the largest deer in 1972, 21 points. All of his training and marksmanship assisted in his hunting experiences, of which there were many. He taught his grand- and great-grandchildren the art of gun safety. He was a constable. He helped his dad work on building Lake Murray. In high school he was a star athlete. He came within 1/10 of a second beating Jesse Owens' track record in the 100 meters. His math also helped him obtain a position as an Industrial Engineer, Civil Service at Tinker Air Force Base, Midwest City, Okla. He even tutored great-grandchildren. He had a brilliant mind.

Harry obtained knowledge to become a diesel mechanic by taking a home course the same time his father took it, and always scored better than his dad. This knowledge saved him on some flying missions, on truck and auto repairs.

Harry's medals consisted of the Air Force Armed Forces Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Air Force Combat Readiness Medal, American Campaign Medal, American Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Victory Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal and State National Guard Service Medal. He was named Commodore of the Oklahoma Navy and was a 32nd Degree Mason.

Harry was a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation. He learned many of his hunting, trapping, and fishing skills from his Chickasaw grandfather early in life. He passed those skills on to his loving family members. He was able to provide food for his family and many that were hungry. He would barter out his skills during the great depression for survival.

He met various famous individuals during his service time; Elvis Presley - he dedicated songs to his crew while flying, but he never thought of getting an autograph, just a friend; Arnold Palmer - wanted to hire him to be his pilot, but he had a career goal; John Wayne - Dean Martin had taken Harry's seat and John said, "You have taken this gentleman's seat." He took up for Harry.

Harry is preceded in death by his parents Samuel and Zona Glasgow; brothers Charlie Glasgow and Billy Glasgow; sister Mary Lou Smith and granddaughter Dorothy Glasgow.

Harry is survived by his wife Ida Faye Glasgow, Elkwood Senior Living; daughters Charlotte and husband Gayle Bound of the home in Blanchard, Okla., Cheryl and husband Jack George, Martinsburg, W.Va.; sons Neil and wife Debbie Glasgow, Burns Flat, Okla., Eddie and wife Verna Glasgow, Fort Worth; sisters Jody Pekrul and Martha Colvin; brother Robert Glasgow, grandchildren Jacob and Rosa Dudgeon, Chris and Misty Dudgeon, Rebecca Dudgeon, Riley Bound, Jarod and Crystal Schneberger, Cory and Meredith Schneberger, Kyle Glasgow, April Glasgow, Kylie Glasgow, Chad Glasgow, Brandi and Keith Banister; and 30 great-grandchildren with precious, growing minds.

Services for Harry Edward Glasgow were held April 7, 2017, at First United Methodist Church in Cordell, Okla., with interment at Lawnview Cemetery. Services were under the direction of Ray & Martha's Funeral Home of Cordell.

Ronald Joe Hamil

Ronald Joe Hamil, 57, of Henryetta, Okla., passed away April 13, 2017, at St. John's Hospital in Tulsa, following a 15-month battle with kidney cancer. He was born August 30, 1959, in Miami, Okla., to Alfred Louis Hamil and Jennie Lee (Speaks) Isaacs. Ronnie spent time in Picher, Checotah, and Okmulgee, Okla., while growing up, where his father was a high school band director. He was a very proud citizen of the Chickasaw Nation and a descendant of original enrollees, James S. Culberson and Bessie Mosley, niece of former Chickasaw Governor Palmer S. Mosely.

After graduating from Checotah High School, Ronnie married Carolyn Ann Henneberger September 9, 1977, in Checotah, Okla. After living and working briefly in Fort Worth, Texas, and Muskogee, Okla., Ronnie and Carolyn settled in Henryetta, Okla., where he began his long career with Anchor Glass Container Corporation and raised their two children, JD and Claudia. While raising their family, Ronnie had been involved in coaching the young girls' softball teams that his daughter, Claudia played on. He also introduced a number of young kids, including his son, JD, to playing tennis. In addition to being a craftsman and skilled woodworker, Ronnie always had tremendous love for the great outdoors, whether it was hunting, fishing, camping, cycling, mountain biking or kayaking. For him, it was all about being out and about in nature. In recent years, he was blessed and he especially cherished the time he spent with his young granddaughter (Gracelind) and grandson (Elias). He was loved by his local community and will be sorely missed by all who knew and interacted with him.

Ronnie was preceded in death by his father, Alfred Louis Hamil; sister, Linda Gale Hamil; and father-and mother-in-law, Bill and Penny Henneberger.

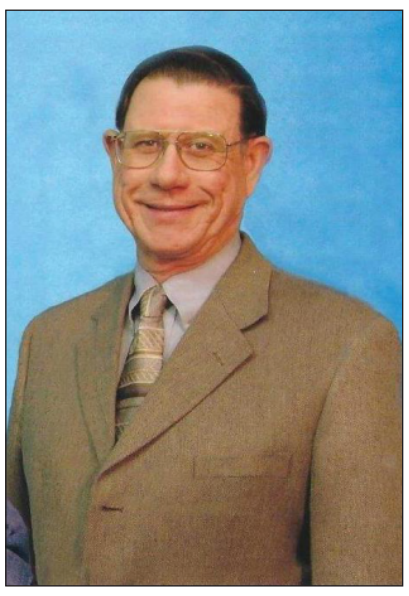
Ronnie is survived by his wife, Carolyn Hamil, of the home; son, JD Hamil of Salt Lake City; daughter, Claudia Pollard, her husband TJ and two beloved grandchildren, Gracelind and Elias Pollard of Henryetta. He also leaves behind his mother, Jennie Isaacs of Henryetta; brother, Kenny Hamil and wife Linda of Daytona Beach, Fla.; a sister, Cindy Hamil and life partner, Kathleen Vietoris of Salt Lake City; nieces and nephews, Judy Fallon Ferguson of Oklahoma City; Kevin Hamil of Muskogee; Amber Lisicki of Ormond Beach, FLA; William Henneberger of Corpus Christi, Texas; Michael Henneberger of Astoria, N.Y.; brother-in-law, Bill Henneberger and wife Gail of Muskogee; and sister-in-law, Mary Jo "Toody" Lee and Michael of Muskogee, as well as a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

Funeral services were held April 15, 2017, at the Dewar First Baptist Church with Rev. Ryan Wells, officiating. Services were under the direction of Integrity Funeral Service.

Earl G. Hatcher

Earl G. Hatcher passed away December 23, 2016, at the Oklahoma City Hospice House facility. He was 77. He was born in Oklahoma City to Roy and Melba Cole Hatcher May 5, 1939. He married Mable Wright and she had Anita and Glenn. They divorced and he never remarried. He retired from Connelly Paving after more than fifty years. Earl served in the U.S. Army as a medic for six years. He was a member of the Chickasaw Nation Warrior Society. Earl enjoyed hunting, fishing, cooking and harassing telemarketers. He enjoyed his weekends at Lake Texoma, building his cabin and spending time with family. He is preceded in death by his parents and two sisters, Betty and Francis. He is survived by his daughter Kathryn Hatcher of Oklahoma City, and two brothers, Charles of Oklahoma City, and Raymond, of Yukon, Okla., and a sister, Jo Ann, of Arkansas.

Robert W. Greene



Robert W. Greene, 78, of Big Spring, Texas, died April 27, 2017, in a local hospital. Memorial services were held May 2, 2017, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Greg Surles officiating. Inurnment followed at Dunn Cemetery in Scurry County.

Robert was born May 11, 1938, in Snyder, Texas, and married Danielle Robinson in 1962 in Roswell, N.M.

He graduated from Abilene Christian College as a chemist. He began work with Cosden Refinery in 1966 and retired in 2008. He was also proud of his Native American heritage and was a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation.

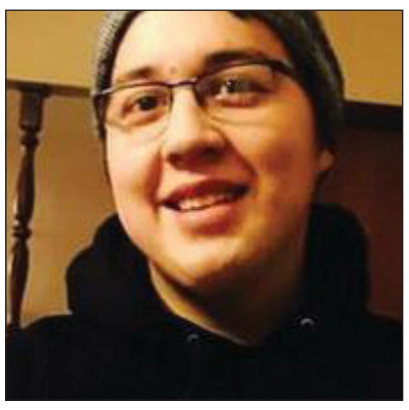
Robert is survived by his wife, Danielle Greene of Big Spring; two daughters, Timary (Timi) Rosenbaum and husband Chuck, of Lubbock, Texas, and Marta Danielle Simmons of Lewisville, Texas, and five grandchildren, Cody Rosenbaum, Caden Rosenbaum, Cayla Rosenbaum, Derek Simmons and Draven Simmons.

Robert was preceded in death by his parents, Robert Scott and Lula Mae (McKnight) Greene.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Medina Children's Home, c/o Arms of Hope, 21300 State Hwy 16 North, Medina, Texas 78055.

Arrangements were under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences may be made at www.npwelch.com.

Jeffrey Shane Griffith



Funeral services for Jeffrey Shane "Chiefy" Griffith, 22, of Tishomingo, Okla., were held April 15, 2017 at the First Assembly of God Church with Brother Randy Wade and Brother Allen Beck officiating. Interment was in the Seeley Cemetery at Connerville, Okla. Jeffrey passed away April 9, 2017, in Tishomingo.

He was born January 4, 1995, in Ada, Okla., to John Griffith and McKisha Factor. He was raised in Tishomingo and attended schools in Tishomingo and Lexington, Okla. He worked in construction. Jeffrey enjoyed skateboarding, attending concerts and spending time with his family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Charlie and Pearline Carter and his paternal grandparents, Wiley and Lillian McGregor.

Jeffrey is survived by his mother, McKisha Factor of the home; his father, John Griffith of Norman; his sister, Alyssa Givens of Oklahoma City; grandparents, Charlene Benson of Tishomingo, Stanley Factor of Ada and Norma Griffith of Norman; also numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and other relatives and friends.

Casket bearers were Casey Muniz, Mikey Reed, Isaiah Estep, Dylan Cooper, T. J. Emerson, Mike Hinkle, Noah Patton and Josh Muniz. Honorary bearers were Jordan Baken, Derek John, Wayne Brazil, Lane Farmer, Junior Alvarez and Byron Johnson.

Pamela Kay Karels

Pamela Kay Karels was born Sept. 10, 1953, in Anadarko, Okla., and passed away May 25, 2016, in Monroe, Wash. Pamela was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and the Eagles. She is survived by her husband Kevin Karels; her son, Michael Olson, his wife Catrina, and daughters and sons-in-law Melissa and Chris Heddlesten, Sharon and Bryant Brown and Kimberly and Dalton Wood; stepchildren, Benjamin and Lisa Karels; her mother, Velma Ross; two brothers; Thomas Ross, Jr., and Wilbur Ross; a sister, Jeannie Ross; 17 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; aunts Margie Underwood, Joyce Vinyard and Leta Faye Irwinsky; uncles Don and Calvin Underwood and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father, Thomas Ross Sr., sister Debora Clark; grandparents, Louis and Tressie Underwood and Lester Ross Sr., and Ollie Ross; uncles, Billy, Darrell and Cecil Underwood, Fairl Ross and Lester Ross Jr.; aunt Barbara Domebo-Underwood and granddaughter McKenzi Wood.

Joseph Louis Domebo

Joseph Louis Domebo of Blanchard, Okla. was born February 16, 1967, in Anadarko, Okla. He passed away August 22, 2016, at Baptist Integris Hospital, Oklahoma City, at the age of 49. He was the son of Barbara Ann Underwood Domebo and Austin Domebo. He attended grade school and graduated from Okmulgee High School with the class of 1985. He worked as an Okmulgee County sheriff and also for Creek Nation Farm & Ranch. He also worked security for the Creek Nation. He attended welding school in Tulsa and worked as a pipeline welder. He was a member of the O-Ho-Mah Lodge, Kiowa Tribe and a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation.

Joseph attended the Church of the Living God with his best friend Oscar Higgs (pastor). He also loved playing his guitars and all kinds of music.

Survivors include two sons: Austin Domebo, of Tulsa and Gavin Domebo, of Okmulgee; five grandchildren: Mackenzie, Nicholes, Trentin, Kendra and Mia Domebo; five aunts: Joyce Vinyard, Velma Ross, of Anadarko, Joan Underwood, of Blanchard, Margie Underwood, of Disney, Okla. and Ethel Anderson, of Lawton, Okla.; three uncles: Calvin Underwood, of Blanchard, and Donald and Pat Underwood, of Blanchard.

He is preceded in death by his mother and father, his grandmother Tressie Underwood who raised him from age 16 months; and his uncles: James Vinyard, Tom Ross, Cecil Underwood, Billy Underwood, George Domebo, Anthony (Red) Domebo and Derrall Underwood.

He leaves to mourn his extended family of friends, cousins, aunts, uncles, sisters and brothers and members of O-Ho-Mah Lodge.

Lewis Dewayne Laxton

Services for Lewis Dewayne Laxton, 58, of Ada, were May 6, 2017, at the First Baptist Church, Rev. John Haynes officiating. Burial followed at Swan Hill Cemetery.

Mr. Laxton died May 2, 2017, in an Oklahoma City hospital. He was born July 21, 1958, in Perryton, Texas to Lewis and Gladys Brown Laxton. He graduated from Vanoss High School, Vanoss, Okla. He married Jaye Lynne Wood June 30, 1978, in Ada. He was currently the Program Manager for the Office of Environmental Health for the Chickasaw Nation. Mr. Laxton was a member of the First Baptist Church and the Ada Masonic Lodge.

Survivors include his wife, Jaye, of the home; two sons, Tyler Laxton and wife Phileshia, of Ada, and Brad Laxton of Atlanta Beach, Fla.; seven grandchildren, Alexsia Dalton, Matt Pitts, Jacob D. Laxton, Jesseca Anderson, Kylee Anderson, Gavin Laxton and Gunner Laxton; his father, Lewis Laxton, of Lightning Ridge, and a sister, Deanna Laxton, of Lightning Ridge.

He was preceded in death by his mother and his grandparents.

Bearers were Tyler Laxton, Brad Laxton, Jupey Booth, Joe Willingham, David Wood and Andrew Pino. Honorary bearers were Michael Whitson, Mason Laxton and Cason Laxton.

The family requests memorials be made to the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation (Liver Research), 825 NE 13th St, Oklahoma City, OK 73104.

William J. (Billy) Phillips

William J. (Bill) Phillips, 80, came into this world March 5, 1937, in Chickasha, Okla., the youngest child of Harry Hill Phillips and Marjorie (née Cochran) Phillips.

His happy childhood was spent in Chickasha, where he graduated from Chickasha High School before attending and graduating from the University of Oklahoma School of Journalism (now the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication). At OU he was a member of Kappa Alpha Order and was an editor on the Oklahoma Daily.

Bill was a proud citizen of the Chickasaw Nation, the grandson of Joseph Ross Phillips and Mary (née Morgan) Phillips and the great-grandson of early Indian Territory pioneer merchant and rancher Thomas Jefferson Phillips and his wife Mary (née Bourland) Phillips. Bill was a descendant of James Logan Colbert, the great Chickasaw leader.

After spending six years in Southern California working in newspaper and book publishing, public relations and motion pictures, Bill returned to Oklahoma, where he continued to live and work.

Twenty-three of those years were at corporate headquarters of Kerr-McGee Corp. in downtown Oklahoma City, where he worked in community relations, corporate philanthropy, special events, corporate advertising and board of directors' relations.

During that period, he directed special events across the country and the world. In Scotland, he was the Kerr-McGee corporate liaison for the commissioning of the world's largest offshore drilling rig, an event that featured Queen Elizabeth II in the traditional sponsorship role of breaking the champagne bottle. In Australia he worked with K-M management on the grand opening of a large chemical facility outside Perth, and in the Bahamas he oversaw numerous K-M subsidiary board meetings.

But it was in his native Oklahoma that Bill enjoyed his work most, including his major role in downtown Oklahoma City activities, including the grand opening of Kerr-McGee Center and the dedication of Kerr Park and Couch Drive Park. He served on the boards of the Oklahoma City Chapter of the American Red Cross, Lyric Theater, Better Business Bureau, All Souls Episcopal Church, Downtown Now (now Downtown Oklahoma City, Inc.), Oklahoma City Advertising Club, Canterbury Choral Society, Oklahoma City Beautiful, Schools for Healthy Lifestyles and the National Executive Service Corps Affiliate Network.

In 1995, after taking early retirement from Kerr-McGee, Bill and others interested in strengthening the management practices of Central Oklahoma nonprofits established the Executive Service Corps of Central Oklahoma (ESCCO), where Bill served as president and CEO until stepping down in 2010. He was a long-time parishioner of All Souls Episcopal Church.

In 2011 he was honored with a Pathmakers Award from the Oklahoma County Historical Society and that same year received a national award for community service from the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge.

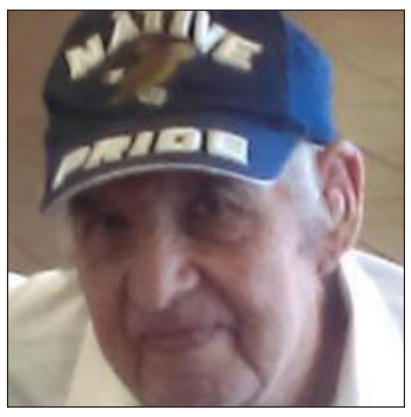
Bill leaves behind his loving wife, Judy. He also is survived by his sons, Adam Linn Phillips of Las Vegas, and Gregory Mullen Phillips and wife, Jenny, of Dallas, and stepdaughter Jennifer Griffin and husband, Jason, of Greensboro, N.C. Also surviving are his adoring grandchildren Will, Emily and Olivia Phillips, of Dallas, and Thomas and Anna Griffin of Greensboro, along with his brother Harry Hill Phillips and wife, Madge, of Amarillo, Texas. He is additionally survived by mother- and father-in-law, Billye Dean and Eddie Poole and brother-in-law Buz Poole, aunt Ruth Anne Tucker and many nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death were his parents; brother B. Cochran Phillips and wife, Margery; sister Marilyn Phillips Kliewer and husband, Frank and sister-in-law Nancy Boxwell Phillips.

His friends will always remember his kind heart and gracious manners and unforgettable evenings with Bill at the piano playing old show tunes.

A memorial service was celebrated at All Souls Episcopal Church Saturday April 8th. Contributions in Bill's name may be made to the Executive Service Corps of Central Oklahoma, 600 N Walker Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73102, or to any of the many charities with whom Bill worked through the years.

Bobby Ray Ross



Bobby Ray Ross, 79, of Ada went to be with his Lord and Savior April 29, 2017, at an Oklahoma City hospital. He was born June 2, 1937, in Fittstown, Okla., to Carl "Bud" and Lois Lavain Vanderpool Ross.

He married Carolyn Faye Gregory February 14, 2017, in Ada. Mr. Ross was a cook at Carl Albert Indian Hospital until his retirement. He was a member of New Hope Pentecostal Church and had served in the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Army. Mr. Ross helped start the Chickasaw Honor Guard.

Survivors include his wife, Carolyn, of the home; his children, Donna Ross of Calif., David Ross and wife Nancy of Byng, Okla., Elaine Hill of Byng and Caroline Sanders and husband Craig of Clovis, Calif.; a stepson, Wayne Glover of Tulsa; two brothers, Carl Ross and Johnny Ross, both of Fittstown; two sisters, Nila Lachawicz, of Calif., and Pansy Johnson; five grandchildren, Jody Reeder, Vanessa Sweet, Roger Reeder and Justin Reeder, all of Byng; and Katie Reeg and Marissa Sanders, both of Calif.; 14 great-grandchildren and other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wives, Mattie Cole and Ruth Logan; and two brothers, Wayne Ross and Jerry Ross.

Services were May 3, 2017, at the Criswell Funeral Home Chapel, the Revs. Toby Willoughby and Bob Graves officiating. Burial followed at Highland Cemetery near Stonewall.

J. WILLIAMS Trucking LLC
Dirt and Gravel
Jacob Williams
Owner
13510 County Road 1553
Ada, Oklahoma 74820
580.279.3312
j.williamstrucking@yahoo.com

Barbara E. Olson-Troyan

Barbara E. Olson-Troyan passed away January 31, 2017, at the age of 72, surrounded by her loving husband Gary, daughter Kimberly Olson, of Largo, Fla., and her granddaughter Shelby Olson, of St. Petersburg, Fla., after having been on a ventilator for pneumonia due to complications from her four-year battle with a non-alcoholic liver disease.

Gary, her husband and soul mate states, "I can't believe she is gone. Barbara was my life, my light, my love. The emptiness I feel without her with me is without bottom." Barbara was fearless, determined and willful. She was kind, genuine, approachable, honest and humble, and she had that smile. She also leaves behind a son James, of Mexico, and another granddaughter Nikki, of Oregon.

Tamara Gay Stroud Brown Smith

Tamara Gay Stroud Brown Smith passed away after a lengthy illness April 2, 2017, at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center in Ada, Okla. Her memorial service was held at Wadley's Funeral Home in Purcell, Okla., April 8, 2017. She was born March 15, 1964, in Shreveport, La.

She is survived by her husband, Roger D. Smith, of Lexington, Okla.; parents, Lonnie and Sharon Brown, of Taylor, Ark.; daughter, Jennifer Griffin and grandson Hayden of Norman; brothers Randall R. Stroud Brown and Lonnie Shane Brown and a sister, Mandi M. Black. Her great-grandmother was an original enrollee.

Tamara was a beautiful, talented person, gifted in so many ways. She is truly missed and loved.

Special thanks to Rob and Anna Diaz of Lexington, Okla.

Harlan "Buddy" Fred Webb

Harlan "Buddy" Fred Webb died March 20, 2017, at Lubbock, Texas, surrounded by his family. He was born March 9, 1940, in Ada, Okla. He moved to Hobbs, N.M., when he was eight years old and attended Hobbs schools.

He became involved in mine rescue training in 1978 where he went on to become the trainer of two very successful mine rescue teams. Because of his lifelong dedication to safety, he received the prestigious honor of induction into the Mine Safety and Health Administration's Mine Rescue Hall of Fame in 2000. He retired in 2011 after 46 years of service.

He loved the Lord with all his heart and that love shone through with everything he did. He had a positive influence on everyone he met and will be dearly missed.

He was preceded in death by his father, Fred Webb; his mother, Cleta Fair; and his wife, Ann Webb.

He is survived by his wife, Ann Webb, of Hobbs; his sons Buddy Wayne Webb, of Midland, Texas and Danny Ray Webb and wife Mitzie Webb, of Hobbs; his grandchildren Josh Webb, of Amarillo, Justin Webb of Hobbs, Jennifer Youngblood, of Walla Walla, Wash., and Jordan Burnell of Artesia, N.M.; great-grandchildren, Kyeley and Kaydance Webb, Hayden and Maddox Youngblood and Brantley, Braden and Brody Burnell; a sister Carolyne Gartman and husband, Ken, family Jaime Leeper and husband Lee Leeper and Tami Ballard of Hobbs.

He is loved by many more family and friends.

Services were March 23, 2017, at Christian Center Church in Hobbs with Pastor Jetty Kinney presiding. Condolences can be made at Chapel of Hope Funeral Home www.chapelofhopefunerals.com.

Chickasaw Citizen Gatherings in North and South Texas

Marion Johnson gives Governor Anoatubby a high five at the North Texas Chickasaw Gathering, April 22 in Dallas.

Governor Bill Anoatubby, third row third from right, and Lt. Gov. Keel, second row far left, with Chickasaw Nation veterans and members of the Chickasaw Nation Warrior Society at the North Texas Chickasaw Gathering, April 22 in Dallas. Front row from left: Cynthia Zinn, Larry Sills, Gary Cooper, Al Caldwell, Jim Gause, Vicki Kuch, Richard Jennings, JD McDanel, Nathan Brown and Larry Williford. Second row from left: Lt. Governor Jefferson Keel, Eugene Millner, Ron Murrell, Richard Burkett, Johny Swinney, Daryl Swinney, James Keel, Ron Harris and Steven Moody. Third row from left: Lawrence Gilliam, Walter Culbert, Frank Bourland, Paul Reed and Sam Crow
Back, left to right: Patrick Wyers, others unidentified.

The Shabbot Family at the North Texas Chickasaw Gathering, April 22 in Dallas.

Linda Pendergras, left, and Keith Hood, right, meet with Governor Anoatubby soon after arriving at the April 29 South Texas Chickasaw Gathering in San Antonio.

Governor Bill Anoatubby, back row second from right, with Chickasaw Nation veterans and members of the Chickasaw Nation Warrior Society at the South Texas Chickasaw Gathering, April 29 in San Antonio. Front row from left: Tom Knight, Karen Shumate, Dewey Pittman, Dan Cozby, David Driver and Ashley Nelson. Back row from left, Phillip Billy, director of veterans services, James Collins, Frank Randall, Bob Ozment, Leonard Russell, David Miller, Governor Bill Anoatubby and Peter Land.

Essence Smith, left, and Amber Oliver with Governor Anoatubby during the April 29 South Chickasaw Gathering in San Antonio.

At right, Eva Bell, of Irving, Texas, attended the April 22 North Texas Chickasaw Gathering in Dallas with a desire to meet with Governor Anoatubby. She is pictured with the Governor.